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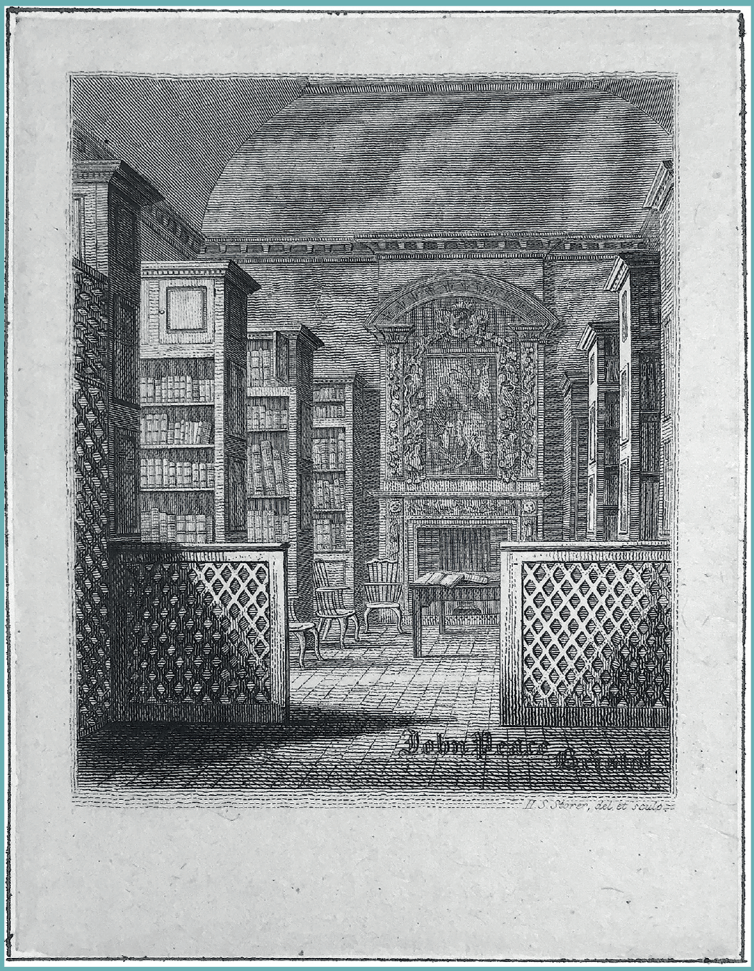
THE MINUTE BOOK OF THE BRISTOL LIBRARY SOCIETY, 1772–1801

Edited by
MAX SKJÖNSBERG AND MARK TOWSEY



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MAX SKJÖNSBERG AND MARK TOWSEY

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This volume would not have been possible without the support of the UK's Arts and Humanities Research Council, which funded a major digital humanities project homed in the Department of History at the University of Liverpool investigating the role of books and reading in driving political, cultural and social change in the second half of the eighteenth century. The *Libraries, Reading Communities and Cultural Formation in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic* project (grant reference number AH/S007083/1) aimed primarily to collate and make openly accessible data derived from surviving membership lists, catalogues and lending records from around eighty libraries in North America and the British Isles founded between 1731 and 1801. The Bristol Library Society (founded 250 years before the publication of the present volume) was always intended to be a central focus of the project's work due to the extraordinary survival of an unbroken sequence of borrowing records running from the very first loan in 1773 well into the nineteenth century. In the early months of our research, however, we realised that the surviving minutes of the Society's committee meetings and annual general meetings provided a rich opportunity for understanding more fully a subscription library's internal dynamics and management structures – while also allowing us to commemorate a significant landmark in the cultural and intellectual history of one of eighteenth-century Britain's most important towns.

We wish to thank our colleagues and collaborators on the *Libraries, Reading Communities and Cultural Formation* project, namely Sophie H. Jones, Angie Sutton-Vane, Simon Burrows, Michael Falk, Rachel Hendery, Ian Johnson, Laura Miller, Darshan Nagavara, Kyle Roberts, Matthew Sangster, Norbert Schürer and Lynda Yankaskas. Their generous collegiality, expert knowledge and technical know-how have been crucial to the success of the project, and have been a constant support while we have worked away on this volume. Special thanks are due to Harriet Frear, Lucy Moynihan, Anna Probert and Lois Wignall, who helped with parts of the transcription work for this edition during successive Graduate Research Student Internships at Liverpool in 2020 and 2021. We would also like to thank Graham Tratt from the Bristol Archives, as well as Kathleen Thompson and Jonathan Barry of the Bristol Record Society for their invaluable help and advice at different stages of this project. Mikko Tolonen's generosity in sharing data from his research on eighteenth-century book history assisted enormously in identifying books ordered by the Bristol Library Society, listed in Appendix 4. Joshua Smith provided expert commentary while we prepared the final manuscript for the press. The volume is dedicated to David Allan, whose outstanding scholarship on eighteenth-century libraries and reading practices continues to inspire new generations of researchers. The editors have both benefited enormously from David's astute mentoring, abundant good sense and fine culinary skills, and wish him a long and happy retirement.

EDITORIAL CONVENTIONS

These minutes between December 1772 and March 1801 are transcribed from three volumes at the Bristol Archives: MS 32079 (153), covering the Bristol Library Society's annual general meetings; MS 32079 (154), covering the regular committee meetings between 1772 and 1789, and MS 32079 (155) covering committee meetings between 1789 and 1807. As our concluding date, we have taken the general meeting of 23 March 1801, when the long-serving vice president Rev. John Casberd stepped down and was replaced by Rev. Samuel Seyer, and the last regular committee meeting presided over by Casberd on 17 March 1801. The original folio numbers are given in square brackets, and each volume transcribed has been indicated by a page break. The precise format of the minute books has not been reproduced. Attendance at meetings is organised in different ways in the manuscripts, but we have chosen to list names in line to save space. Abbreviated first names and initials (when known) have been extended and dates have been standardised. Bold type is used to highlight where a separate meeting begins.

Original spelling has for the most part been retained, as have inconsistencies in spelling and erratic spellings of names and book titles in foreign languages. [*Sic*] has at times been inserted for clarity. Capitalisation has sometimes been modernised to aid clarity, and contractions and abbreviations have been expanded. Some recurring abbreviations have been standardised: 'Junr' and 'Senr' have been rendered as 'Jr' and 'Sr', 'Esqr. as 'Esq.', and 'Revd' as 'Rev.' Original punctuation is erratic and has occasionally been modernised where necessary. Monetary values have also been standardised.

The following editorial conventions are employed:

- *Editorial additions* – given in square brackets.
- *Marginal insertions* – where text is added in the margins (usually in pencil), this is enclosed by interpolation marks: i.e. ^interpolated text^.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTE AND ABBREVIATIONS

The chief sources for biographical and occupational information and street names that appear in the footnotes and appendices are the Bristol directories and poll books from the period, as well as some crucial databases, all of which are listed below.

BA:	Bristol Archives.
BBTI:	*British Book Trade Index* (bbti.bodleian.ox.ac.uk).
Bristol Lists:	Alfred Beaven, *Bristol Lists: Municipal and Miscellaneous* (Bristol, 1899).
Bristol Royal Infirmary:	George Munro Smith, *A History of the Bristol Royal Infirmary* (Bristol, 1917).
Catalogue 1774:	*A Catalogue of the Books Belonging to the Bristol Library Society; To which are Prefixed the Rules of the Institution, and a List of the Subscribers* (Bristol, 1774).
Catalogue 1782:	*A Catalogue of the Books Belonging to the Bristol Library Society; To which are Prefixed the Rules of the Institution, and a List of the Subscribers* (Bristol, 1782).
Catalogue 1790:	*A Catalogue of the Books Belonging to the Bristol Library Society; To which are Prefixed the Rules of the Institution, and a List of the Subscribers* (Bristol, 1790).
Catalogue 1798:	*A Catalogue of the Books Belonging to the Bristol Library Society; To which are Prefixed the Rules of the Institution, and a List of the Subscribers* (Bristol, 1798).
Catalogue 1814:	*A Catalogue of the Books Belonging to the Bristol Library Society; To which are Prefixed An Account of the Institution of the Society, and its Rules and Regulations* (Bristol, 1814).
CCEd:	*Clergy of the Church of England Database* (theclergydatabase.org.uk).
Directory 1775:	*Sketchley's Bristol Directory; Including Clifton, Bedminster, and the Out-Parishes of St. James and St. Philip* (Bristol, 1775).
Directory 1793–4:	*Matthews's New Bristol Directory, For the Year, 1793–4* (Bristol, 1793).
Eighteenth-Century Annals:	John Latimer, *The Annals of Bristol in the Eighteenth Century* (Bristol, 1793).
Gloucestershire Poll Book 1776:	*The Poll at the Election of a Knight of the Shire for the County of Gloucester, Begun on Monday the*

	6th, and Continued Until Friday the 17th of May, 1776 (London, 1776).
HoP:	*History of Parliament Online* (https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org).
Memorial:	*A Memorial for the Present Age, and Information to Posterity, of the Loyality [sic], Patriotic Zeal, and Spirited Exertions of the Citizens of Bristol: Being an Account of the Cause, Rise, Progress, and Military Improvement of the Volunteers of the Said City. With a Correct List of the Names of Officers, and Every Soldier of the Cavalry and Infantry* (Bristol, 1797).
OED:	*Oxford English Dictionary.*
ODNB:	*Oxford Dictionary of National Biography.*
Poll Book 1754:	*The Bristol Poll-Book: Being a List of the Freeholders and Freemen, Who voted at the General Election for Members to Serve in Parliament for the City and County of Bristol, begun at the Guildhall of the said City Wednesday the 17th of April, 1754, and Ended Wednesday the 1st of May Following* (Bristol, 1754).
Poll Book 1774:	*The Bristol Poll Book, Being a List of Persons who Voted at the General Election for Members to Serve in Parliament for the City and County of Bristol, Begun at the Guildhall of the said City, Friday, October 7, 1774, and Ended Thursday, November 3, Following* (Bristol, 1774).
Poll Book 1781:	*The Bristol Poll-Book, Being a List of Persons who Voted at the Election of a Member to Serve in Parliament with Matthew Brickdale, Esquire, for the City and County of Bristol, in the Room of Sir Henry Lippincott, Bart. Deceas'd, Began at the Guildhall of the said City, Wednesday, January, 31, 1781, and Ended Saturday, February 24, Following* (Bristol, 1781).
Poll Book 1784:	*The Bristol Poll Book: Being a List of the Freeholders and Freemen, who Voted at the General Election for Members to Serve in Parliament for the City and County of Bristol, Begun at the Guildhall on Saturday April the 3d, and Ended Saturday May the 8th, 1784* (Bristol, 1784).
Poll Book 1812:	*The Poll Book, Being a List of the Freeholders & Freemen who Voted at the General Election, for Members to Serve in Parliament for the City and County of Bristol, which Commenced at the Guildhall, on Tuesday October 6, 1812, and finished Friday, the 16th* (Bristol, 1818).
Supplement 1800:	*A List of Books Brought into the Library since March 25, 1799* (Bristol, 1800).
TNA:	The National Archives.

INTRODUCTION

On 2 December 1772, ten Bristolians met to plan what one of them would later grandly term a 'Revolution in the Town',[1] the formation of 'a Society in order to collect a Library for the use of the Subscribers'. '[A]ny friends to Literature who are willing to concur in such a scheme' were invited via an advertisement in the local newspapers to attend a public meeting at the Bush Tavern opposite the Corn Exchange on 15 December at six o'clock in the evening.[2] Some complained that this initial announcement was insufficiently 'explicit…to convey an Idea of the plan proposed to those who may be Strangers to it'. A longer letter of explanation was therefore included in 'the Saturday's Paper' – that is to say, the *Bristol Journal*[3] – giving a sketch of the Rules of the Manchester Circulating Library (founded in 1765), and continuing effusively that a similar model had been adopted at 'Liverpool and some other places for some years past and continues to meet with approbation and encouragement'.[4] 'The utility of such a method is sufficiently obvious', the organisers concluded, calling on the city's 'Clergy and others who are conversant in Literature' to 'approve of this undertaking and favour it with their attendance' (p. 2).

The widespread confusion evidently caused by the initial announcement should not come as too much of a surprise. Certain kinds of library were already reasonably familiar in British towns of the mid-eighteenth century. Bristol itself (following Norwich in 1608 and Ipswich in 1612) had one of the earliest 'public' libraries in England, founded in 1613 in a building donated to the city for the purpose by Bristol merchant Robert Redwood and augmented by books bequeathed subsequently by Bristol-born Tobias Mathew, Archbishop of York.[5] Like the later Chetham's Library in Manchester (founded in 1653), the Bristol Old Library was characteristic of the philanthropic library bequests of the seventeenth century, aiming to preserve knowledge and make it publicly available to scholars and clergymen – but with little

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[1] See appendix 3.

[2] See below, p. 1. For subsequent references to material transcribed below, citations will be given in parentheses in the main body of the text.

[3] It had been published on Saturdays since May 1752 and was Bristol's leading weekly at the time.

[4] The original advert was published in *Bristol Journal* on 5 December 1772, with the follow-up letter on 12 December. A later printed list of the Manchester Circulating Library's regulations can be found in *A Catalogue of the Present Collection of Books in the Manchester Circulating Library; A Copy of the Laws; and a List of the Subscribers* (Manchester, 1794).

[5] E. R. Norris Mathews, 'History of the Public Library Movement in Bristol', *The Library* (1896); Charles Tovey, *The Bristol City Library: Its Founders and Benefactors, with a Catalogue of the Books Belonging to the Citizens* (London, 1853).

expectation that ordinary people would have any desire or need to use its books.[6] On 31 May 1760, 'Urbicola' had proposed in *Felix Farley's Bristol Journal* to revive the library, but nothing appears to have come of this proposal.[7] Bristol also boasted 'one of the largest and finest cathedral libraries in England' with around 7,000 volumes, while Paul Kaufman has presented valuable quantitative information on the borrowing records of cathedral libraries elsewhere.[8] Commercial book lending (initially from coffee shops and taverns, and increasingly from formal 'circulating libraries' run by booksellers on a profit) was also becoming a familiar – and not uncontroversial – part of the urban book scene.[9]

The subscription library model proposed in Bristol was still reasonably new, especially in England, and was fundamentally different to existing models. Inspired on the one hand by rising literacy rates and the increasing cultural capital of reading amongst the middling sorts, and on the other by the continuing high price of new books, the subscription library – sometimes known as proprietary libraries or, especially in North America, as social libraries – was essentially a private book club, with members pooling their resources to acquire a larger permanent collection of books than any of them could afford individually.[10] Whereas the choice of books – and the means of accessing them – was generally controlled at other types of library by a single individual (by the philanthropist responsible for endowing a public library, for example, or the bookseller operating a commercial circulating library for profit), these decisions at the subscription library lay in the hands of subscribers,

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[6] See especially Thomas Kelly, *Early Public Libraries* (London, 1966); Scott Mandelbrote, *'Converse with Books': Scientific and Medical Libraries in the British Isles,* c.*1640*– c.*1750* (Berlin, 2005); Matthew Yeo, *The Acquisition of Books by Chetham's Library, 1655–1700* (Leiden, 2011); Giles Mandelbrote and K. A. Manley (eds.), *The Cambridge History of Libraries in Britain and Ireland. Volume 2, 1640*–1850 (Cambridge, 2006). For the wider context, see David Pearson, *Book Ownership in Stuart England* (Oxford, 2021).

[7] *Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, 31 May 1760.

[8] Paul Kaufman, *Borrowings from the Bristol Library, 1773–1784: A Unique Record of Reading Vogues* (Charlottesville, VA, 1960), pp. 131–2; Paul Kaufman, *Reading Vogues at English Cathedral Libraries of the Eighteenth Century* (New York, 1964). Only about 1100 volumes were recovered following the destruction of the library at Bristol Cathedral during riots in 1831; Beriah Botfield, *Notes on the Cathedral Libraries of England* (London, 1849), pp. 1–4.

[9] There were nearly forty circulating libraries in Bristol before 1801, including those operated by Thomas Sendall (from 1728), Benjamin Hickey (1744), J. Darbyshire (1746), Thomas Loggan (1756), Edward Fisher (1760), William Jones (1760), Edward Shiercliff (1767) and Isaac James (1771). Information derived from Robin Alston, 'The Library History Database: British Isles to 1850', www.r-alston.co.uk/contents.htm (downloaded March 2008); the database is presently held off-line at the Institute of English Studies, London (hereafter, Alston). For the controversy surrounding commercial circulating libraries, see David Allan, *A Nation of Readers: the Lending Library in Georgian England* (London, 2008), chapter 4; Mark Towsey, *Reading the Scottish Enlightenment: Books and their Readers in Provincial Scotland, 1750–1820* (Leiden, 2010), chapter 3. For coffee house libraries, see Markman Ellis, 'Coffee-House Libraries in Mid-Eighteenth Century London', *The Library*, 10.1 (March 2009), pp. 3–40.

[10] The terms 'proprietary library' and 'subscription library' were used interchangeably by Edward Edwards in his *Memoirs of Libraries* (1859). While the latter was used for much of the previous century to describe libraries where users owned stock in the collection, the term 'subscription' tends to be preferred in the most recent literature to describe any library where users paid an annual subscription for membership; for a useful discussion of the terminology see the 'definition of types' provided by the Davies Project at Princeton University, consulted online at https://daviesproject.princeton.edu/databases/index.html [accessed 30 March 2022). For extended discussion, see Allan, *Nation of Readers*, especially chapters 1 and 3. For the price of books, see also James Raven, *The Business of Books: Booksellers and the English Book Trade, 1450–1850* (New Haven, CT, 2007) and William St Clair, *The Reading Nation in the Romantic Period* (Cambridge, 2004).

who determined the rules of the institution, its membership fees, opening hours and acquisitions policies on a collective basis. The model was first pioneered in Philadelphia in 1731 by Benjamin Franklin's famous 'Junto' debating club as a pragmatic solution to the practical difficulties of accessing new books in a colonial city far from the centre of British book publishing in London.[11] This model proved a great success on the colonial seaboard, before spreading first to the Scottish Borders, and then to the rapidly growing industrial towns of northern England. The Liverpool Library cited by the ten Bristol founders is generally thought to have been the first formal subscription library in England (founded in 1758), while they may also have had in mind similar libraries founded in Warrington (1760), Carlisle, Halifax and Leeds (all 1768), Macclesfield (1770) and Sheffield (1771).

In proposing to establish a subscription library, the ten Bristolians who called the meeting at the Bush Tavern on 15 December 1772 were therefore connecting themselves to – and ultimately involving themselves with – a dynamic cultural movement which sought to bring books, knowledge and enlightenment to urban communities across the English-speaking world. By 1800, there were well over 350 libraries of this kind across the British Isles and North America, established in towns ranging from tiny rural settlements like Wigtown in rural Scotland and Fredericktown on the Pennsylvanian frontier, through to rapidly growing industrial centres like Belfast and Leeds, and bustling transatlantic ports like New York, Dublin and Bristol.[12] The institution that took shape at their initial meeting – the Bristol Library Society – eventually became one of the largest of its kind, boasting nearly 300 members[13] and around 8,000 volumes by the early decades of the nineteenth century, and has come to occupy a central place in scholarly understanding of the history of libraries, book circulation and reading in the age of Enlightenment and Revolutions.[14] While its unique run of surviving borrowing registers (spanning the 1770s well into the nineteenth century) has attracted enduring scholarly attention, this complete transcription of minutes from the Bristol Library Society's annual general meetings and administrative committee meetings sheds fresh light on the operation

[11] Edwin Wolf, *'At the Instance of Benjamin Franklin': A Brief History of the Library Company of Philadelphia* (Philadelphia, revised ed., 1995); Sophie Jones, 'Very Useful as well as Ornamental': Social Libraries in Early American Communities', *Library and Information History*, 37 (2021), pp. 109–30.

[12] Derived from lists of known libraries given in Alston (for the British Isles) and 'The Davies Project at Princeton University: American Libraries before 1876', https://daviesproject.princeton.edu (accessed September 2021). Data on holdings and memberships for at least eighty libraries will be published by the AHRC-funded 'Libraries, Reading Communities and Cultural Formation in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic' project; for the latest information, see www.c18librariesonline.org.

[13] See appendix 2 for membership lists prefixed to the eighteenth-century catalogues. The Library Society's cash book records subscriptions paid by individuals; BA: 32079/160, Cashbook, 2 December 1772–24 April 1871.

[14] Kaufman, *Borrowings*. Kaufman's statistics continue to be used extensively by scholars seeking empirical information on the circulation and reception of eighteenth-century books; see, for example, John Brewer, *Pleasures of the Imagination: English Culture in the Eighteenth Century* (London, 1997), pp. 151–52, 531; Simon Burrows, *The French Book Trade in Enlightenment Europe II: Enlightenment Bestsellers* (London, 2018), pp. 115–16; Jan Golinski, *Science as Public Culture: Chemistry and Enlightenment in Britain, 1760–1820* (Cambridge, 1999), pp. 73–74; Paul Langford, *A Polite and Commercial People: England, 1727–1783* (Oxford, 1998), pp. 94–95; Paul Stock, *Europe and the British Geographical Imagination, 1760–1830* (Oxford, 2019), p. 23; Rosemary Sweet, *The Writing of Urban Histories in Eighteenth-Century England* (Oxford, 1997), p. 118. The 'Libraries, Reading Communities and Cultural Formation in the Eighteenth-Century Atlantic' project will extend Kaufman's analysis of the borrowing records at Bristol up to 1801, linking each loan to detailed bibliographical and biographical research on members and books; www.c18librariesonline.org

of the library and the interests of the people involved in its foundation – including Bristol luminaries such as Richard Champion and Joseph Harford. Coinciding with the 250th anniversary of the library's founding, their publication in this volume marks a significant landmark in the cultural and intellectual history of one of the eighteenth century's most important towns.

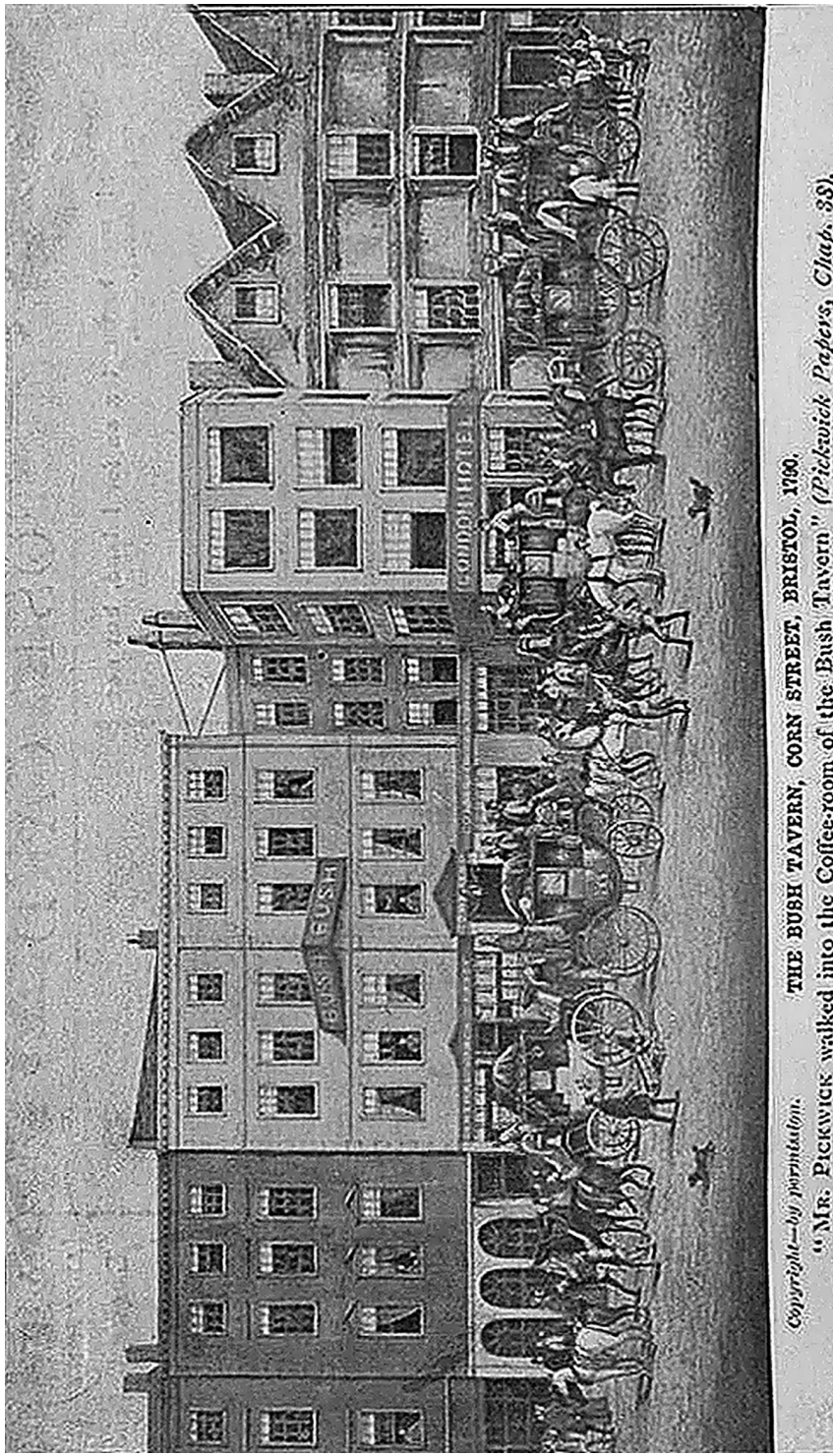
The Library Society's Inception and Membership

Twenty-five people turned up to the meeting on 15 December at the Bush Tavern (depicted in figure 1). After having settled on an entrance fee and an annual subscription fee of one guinea each, this group of individuals elected a twelve-strong committee, with the Rev. Dr. John Casberd as chairman and William Buller as secretary.[15] At a subsequent meeting a few weeks later, the library invited the Bishop of Bristol to become president, though this became a largely symbolic office, lending prestige to the library, as few incumbents of the bishopric attended the committee's meetings. Thomas Newton, Bishop in 1761–82 – author of *Dissertation on the Prophecies* (1754) – attended only once, though he donated books and contributed a ten guinea entrance fee and two guineas annually to the library. Four subsequent successors engaged minimally with the library before Folliott Cornewall (incumbent between 1797 and 1802) attended more frequently. Casberd's position was changed to vice president, but he remained effectively the chairperson of the committee, and he would be re-elected for this position until he stepped down in March 1801 and eventually became an honorary member of the committee.[16] In addition to being secretary, Buller was elected as treasurer, and kept this role until 1776 when he resigned and transferred his share in the Library due to his relocation away from Bristol (possibly to Wilton in Wiltshire). His replacement, the gentleman John Deverell, himself retired from the committee in 1791 due to ill-health, with the merchant-cum-politician Joseph Smith elected in his place.

Deverell's elevation to treasurer reflects the wider stability of the library's leadership, in keeping with Robert Morris's characterisation of voluntary committees as 'a perfect compromise between the middle class striving for self respect and independence and the reality of hierarchical society with its massive inequalities of wealth and power, even within the middle class'.[17] He had been a member of the original committee selected in 1772, along with John Ford, William Barrett, Joseph Harford, George Daubeny, Dr. Samuel Farr, the Rev. John Prior Estlin, Richard Champion, John Merlott, and the Rev. Samuel Love. Among them, Champion, Ford, Harford, Buller, Farr, and Estlin had been present at the first recorded meeting on 2 December. Most of them were relatively young men at the time, but many would become illustrious figures in Bristol's history.

Bristol prided itself as the second city in England at this time, although it was overtaken by Liverpool in size in the last decades of the eighteenth century. Bristol was primarily known for manufacturing and commerce – notoriously, the slave

[15] See appendix 1 for biographical information on all committee members for the period covered by this volume; information on library members who did not serve on the committee is provided in the footnotes.
[16] *Catalogue 1814,* p.xii.
[17] R. J. Morris, 'Voluntary Societies and British Urban Elites, 1780–1850: An Analysis', *Historical Journal*, 26 (1983), pp. 95–118, at p. 101; for the precedence enjoyed by founding members 'in securing and retaining a place' on library committees, see Allan, *Nation of Readers*, p. 84.



The Bush Tavern, Corn Street, 1790. BA: 17563/1/367 https://archives.bristol.gov.uk/records/17563/1/367

trade – rather than science, culture and literature. Defoe, for instance, in his *Tour thro' the Whole Island of Great Britain* (1724–7), described Bristol as 'the greatest, the richest, and the best Port of Trade in Great Britain, London only excepted'.[18] Eighteenth-century Bristol did not have a noble class. Its leaders were instead its ministers, both Anglican and non-conformist, and especially its merchants. Out of the ten initial organisers who met on 2 December 1772, five were merchants – John Peach, Champion, Smith, Mark and Joseph Harford – and at least one other, the physician Dr. Farr, belonged to a prominent commercial family in the city. The clergy were initially represented by the Unitarian minister Estlin, and he was supplemented by four Anglian clergymen – Rev. Dr. Casberd, Rev. Love, Rev. Richard Collinson, and Rev. William Milton – who turned up to the first public meeting on 15 December. Besides merchants and clergy, the Library Society was dominated by the professions, and especially the medical, with three representatives among the original ten planners (Farr, Ford and Abraham Ludlow). Another three medical professionals (Barrett, James Plomer, and Dr. William Moncrieffe) attended on 15 December 1772 and joined the committee.

The closest the Library Society came to aristocratic representatives was a small number of nobles in the Irish peerage: Bristol's MPs Robert Nugent, Lord Clare, who never used the library (discussed further below) and John Lysaght, 2nd Baron Lisle of Mountnorth, who borrowed books from the library in the early 1780s. There were also six baronets from prominent families with fortunes rooted in trade. A large number of the library's membership, who are known through membership lists attached to its published catalogues, had the status designation 'Esq.' suffixed to their names – perhaps as many as 104 out of 446 known members between 1772 and 1801, though we should note that sources are not entirely consistent on this score – which could mean a plethora of things, including office holding and land ownership. Several merchants invested their commercial profits in land and became gentry. Many library members voted in the Gloucestershire county election of 1776, but most of them as tenants, with some notable exceptions, including Joseph Harford and Champion, who had invested in land and country estates.[19] As was common in eighteenth-century England, 'new men rooted themselves upon old acres'.[20]

Many of Bristol's merchants were incredibly wealthy, but it was often new rather than old wealth. The Harfords, who were merchants, brass manufacturers, and bankers, were a Quaker family on the rise.[21] They came to prominence with Charles Harford (1631–1709), the first Harford to enter trade in Bristol in the second half of the seventeenth century. The Stoke Bishop line of the family was the branch most intimately involved with brass-making, and began with library committee member Mark Harford (1700–1788). He was originally a haberdasher of small wares who became connected with the brass trade through his marriage to Love Andrews, granddaughter of one of the founders of the Bristol Brass Company. The Harford

[18] Daniel Defoe, *Tour Thro' the Whole Island of Great Britain* (3 vols., 1724–7), II, p. 54. For a useful summary, see Kathleen Hapgood, *The Friends to Literature: Bristol Library Society 1772–1864* (Bristol, 2011), p. 6.

[19] *Gloucestershire Poll Book 1776*, p. 11. The voting requirement for County elections in the eighteenth century was freehold property valued for the land tax at 40 shillings per year. In theory, all county voters were meant to be country gentlemen, but in practice some of them were tenants renting from larger landowners.

[20] Lewis Namier, *England in the Age of the American Revolution* (1930; London, 1961), p. 11.

[21] See *ODNB's* article on the Harford family by Peter Wakelin.

family, through its principal Bristol branches, eventually formed a major business empire, but it was an empire that was still under construction when the Library Society was founded. Its expansion was led by Joseph Harford, who was part of the Stapleton branch of the family, which originated with the grocer Charles Harford (1704–46).

Many in the early eighteenth century complained of the narrow spirit of Bristol's merchants, who were often disapprovingly compared with those of London, and disparaged by authors such as Alexander Pope and Richard Savage.[22] Thomas Cox wrote in 1727 that 'the People [of Bristol] give up themselves to Trade so entirely, that nothing of the Politeness and Gaiety of Bath is to be seen here.'[23] After the middle of the eighteenth century, however, Bristol began to change, as theatres opened (and closed) in the city, clubs and societies were established, and the library formed part of this broader cultural expansion.[24] An updated 1778 posthumous edition of Daniel Defoe's *Tour Thro' the Whole Island of Great Britain* highlighted that 'Convenience and elegance are now attended to at Bristol, and it affords every gratification a reasonable person can desire.' Importantly, the editors stressed that 'Literature and genteel education are much cultivated in Bristol', highlighting the library as:

> a handsome stone building, with literary emblems in the front. It contains a copious and excellent collection of the best ancient and modern authors. It is reduced to a system, and is continually augmenting, by a large number of annual subscribers, for purchasing new publications.[25]

The library's membership grew from twenty-five members attending the first public meeting on 15 December 1772, to 102 members in 1774 and 295 members by 1814.[26] Although there were no female committee members, and women are unlikely to have attended any of the public meetings as they were held at taverns, there were at least twenty-two female library members between 1772 and 1801 who inherited shares in the library. Some of them only held their shares for a short period of time, but many of them were active borrowers. Ann Williams, for instance, who inherited a share in the library from the apothecary Edward Bridges, used the library 72 times in just over three years from November 1775 to December 1778. Her favourite genres were history and travel writing, much in line with the wider borrowing trends discussed below.

Kathleen Hapgood has underlined the strong links between the library's leading members and local politics in Bristol, speculating that the project may have been

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[22] Peter T. Marcy, 'Eighteenth-Century Views of Bristol', in Patrick McGrath (ed.), *Bristol in the Eighteenth Century* (London, 1972), pp. 11–40.

[23] Thomas Cox, *Magna Britannia* (6 vols., London, 1722–31), IV, pp. 744–5.

[24] For the broader context of Bristol's cultural life at this time, see esp. Jonathan Barry, 'Chatterton, More and Bristol Cultural Life in the 1760s', in *From Gothic to Romantic: Thomas Chatterton's Bristol*, ed. A. Hayes (Bristol, 2005), pp. 21–36.

[25] Daniel Defoe et. al., *A Tour Through the Island of Great Britain* (1724–7; 3 vols., 1778), II, pp. 239–41; see also Hapgood, *Friends to Literature*, pp. 5–6.

[26] *Catalogue 1814,* p. vi.

'an expedient to remove from the Council the bother of running the [Old] library'.[27] Members of the city's Common Council certainly showed up to the first public meeting of the library on 15 December 1772, including Daubeny and Merlott, who became committee members.[28] Some of the library's original associates such as Harford and Smith eventually became members of the Common Council themselves, while the general meeting of March 1792 – reflecting developments at similar libraries elsewhere – agreed that key city officials should 'be deemed Subscribers to This Society' during their terms of office.[29]

This was a relationship that clearly served the Library Society very well. After the first committee meeting, Champion wrote enthusiastically to a friend about the new project and its plans to 'petition the Corporation [i.e., its governing body, the Common Council][30] for the Library house and the City Books'.[31] Not only did the Common Council sign over to the Library Society the Old's Library's collection of 2,000 books and its new building (erected by the Common Council in 1740 at a cost of £1301.8.1.) to replace the original lodgings bequeathed by Redwood), it also 'at a considerable expence…rendered it convenient for that purpose'.[32] In the autumn of 1773, the committee repeatedly requested 'of the Corporation that a Lamp be fixed at the outer gate of the Library house' (p. 43), while in 1775 the Common Council complied with the committee's request that 'the Stables before the Front of the Library be taken down' (p. 67), committing £392 to clear the land and thereby 'lay open the library house and widen the public way'.[33] The Society of Merchant Venturers contributed £100 to this last improvement, and was another important source of institutional support within the city. Many of the library's committee members and regular members were part of the Merchant Venturers, which made several donations to the library and from 1777 onwards subscribed ten guineas annually until well into the nineteenth century.[34] As a consequence, the Society's Master, Wardens and Treasurer were also voted honorary members of the Library

[27] Hapgood, *Friends to Literature,* p. 4. The new library may have taken the day-to-day management of the city's books out of the Corporation's hands, but the Corporation continued to fund the post of City Librarian and the Library Society committee deferred to the Corporation on important decisions well into the nineteenth century, as when requesting permission to move the city's books to 'some less conspicuous part of the building' in a letter dated 3 May 1826; E. Edwards, *Memoirs of Libraries: Including a Handbook of Library Economy* (1859; Cambridge, 2010), p. 745. When the Library Society elected new librarians in 1809 and 1815, the committee sent a memorial to the Corporation recommending the new librarian for the position of Keeper; BA: 32079/156, Library Society Committee Minutes, 4 April 1809, 28 March 1815. The editors wish to thank Joshua Smith for providing this information.

[28] *Poll Book 1774*, pp. i–ii.

[29] For another example, see Mark Towsey, 'First Steps in Associational Reading: Book Use and Sociability at the Wigtown Library, 1795–99', *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America*, 103.4 (2009), pp. 455–95, at p. 481.

[30] The official title of the municipal corporation was 'the Mayor, Burgesses and Commonalty of the City of Bristol'. Most contemporary references to the 'corporation' refers to its governing body, the Common Council, which comprised the mayor, twelve alderman, and thirty common councillors, of whom two newcomers were usually sheriffs.

[31] Champion to James Dallaway, 20 December 1772; BA: 38083/3, Richard Champion Letter book, f. 332.

[32] *Catalogue 1774,* p. 3; the cost of renovations is given in Hapgood, *Friends to Literature*, p. 3.

[33] Latimer, *Annals of Bristol*, pp. 403–4. This refers to a stable and coach-house in King Street, built in 1728 by Ezekial Longman, ancestor of the great London publishers.

[34] *Catalogue 1814*, p. iv. The last such payment was made in 1849; BA: 32079/160, Cash Book, p. 61. The editors wish to thank Joshua Smith for providing this information.

Society. At least sixty-one of the Merchant Venturers were members of the Library Society in the eighteenth century.

In securing such prominent – and lucrative – mercantile backing, the Library Society's prime movers repeatedly stressed the importance of scientific knowledge to manufacturing and commercial enterprise. In petitioning the Common Council for the use of the Old Library, the committee acknowledged that 'the advantage… every civilized country derives from Literature give it a right to universal protection and encouragement', but argued that 'it has a more peculiar claim on places of commerce, as the great perfection to which many of our manufacturers and works of mechanism are arrived, must be ascribed to scientific principles on which they were founded' (p. 6). The preface to the first printed catalogue – discussed in draft at the committee meeting held on 26 January 1774 – recycled much of the 1772 petition, adding a note about the valuable 'acquisition of foreign Languages' that the Library facilitated, while emphasising that 'our manufactures and works of Mechanism' were not merely 'founded' on 'Scientific Principles' but continued actively to be 'improved' by them (p. 49).

While much of the recent scholarship emphasises the value placed on cultural improvements in subscription libraries,[35] Bristol's very deliberate triangulation between manufacturing, mechanical innovation and scientific principles calls to mind instead Rebecca Bowd's work on libraries in the rapidly industrialising city of Leeds, where they helped to forge and sustain 'a culture of specialization and expertise'.[36] In his private correspondence, one of Bristol's committee stalwarts, Richard Champion, seems to invoke the term 'science' in its altogether broader eighteenth-century sense. Identifying himself as one of six people who had 'caused…This Revolution in the Town', Champion explains his hopes that the Library Society would make the city 'as famous for a liberal cultivation of the Sciences as it is for the cultivation of Trade and Manufacture'.[37]

The same letter from Champion provides further insight into the Library Society's political proclivities, revealing the vote count for the election of the committee in February 1774. With twenty-eight votes to his name, Champion received more votes than anyone else, while three other members received twenty-seven votes: Merlott, Barrett, and the newcomer Thomas Farr, who was the brother of Dr. Samuel Farr. Like several of the other founding members of the library – though not Barrett, who was a Tory – Champion was a member of Bristol's Whig Union Club. Besides

[35] David Allan, 'Politeness and the Politics of Culture: An Intellectual History of the Eighteenth-Century Susbcription Library', *Library & Information History*, 29 (2013), pp. 159–69; James Raven, 'Libraries for Sociability: The Advance of the Subscription Library', in *The Cambridge History of Libraries in Britain and Ireland. Volume 2, 1640–1850*, vol. II, pp. 239–63; James Raven, *London Booksellers and American Customers: Transatlantic Literary Community and the Charleston Library Society, 1748–1811* (Columbia, SC, 2002), especially p. 227; Towsey, 'First Steps'.

[36] Rebecca Bowd, 'Useful Knowledge of Polite Learning? A Reappraisal of Approaches to Subscription Library History', *Library & Information History*, 29.3 (2013), pp. 182–83; Rebecca Bowd, 'Subscription Libraries and the Development of Urban Culture in the Age of Revolution: The Case of Leeds, 1768–1832' (unpublished PhD thesis, University of Leeds, 2016). For a discussion of agricultural improvement, see Mark Towsey, '"Store their Minds with Much Valuable Knowledge": Agricultural Improvement at the Selkirk Subscription Library, 1799–1814', *Journal for Eighteenth-Century Studies*, 38 (2015), pp. 569–84.

[37] See appendix 3 for Champion's letter. See also Max Skjönsberg, 'This Revolution in the Town': Richard Champion and the Early Years of the Bristol Library Society', *Library & Information History*, 37 (2021), pp. 149–67 and Hugh Owen, *Two Centuries of Ceramic Art in Bristol* (Bristol, 1873).

Champion, Burke's closest allies in Bristol included Joseph Harford and Joseph Smith, along with Paul Farr, another of Samuel's brothers.[38] All these men were Protestant Dissenters, which they had in common with the unitarian minister John Prior Estlin of Lewin's Mead, Bristol. The Quakers Champion and Harford were particularly close, in politics and in business. When Burke, who was an Anglican, was asked to be godfather to Smith's son and could not attend, he jokingly wrote to Champion, who agreed to deputise for him: 'The Purpose of this is so whimsical that it breaks all rules; I am to desire a Quaker to be my Proxy as God father, at the christening of a Presbyterian.'[39] Bristol in the eighteenth century was a city where Dissenters were both affluent and influential. The Lewin's Mead Unitarian Chapel alone boasted eleven mayors between 1754 and 1784, representing more than a third of the period.[40]

Although many of the ten founding members were part of the same Whig and Dissenting circles as Champion, the library quickly became a broad-church institution as prominent Tories also attended the first public meeting of the library. Moreover, despite the Dissenting orientation of the founding members, the Library Society built strong ties with the established clergy in the city, who were decisively Tory.[41] We have already noted that the Bishop of Bristol held the symbolic role of president of the society, whilst the vice presidency was occupied by the Anglican clergyman Casberd. In addition, the clergyman Thomas Johnes was elected by a large majority as the first librarian of the society at a general meeting on 8 February 1773, while no fewer than nineteen Anglican clergymen (out of fifty-seven members in total) served on the committee at some point between 1773 and 1801, including John Hallam (dean of Bristol from 1781 to 1800) and Charles Peter Layard (who succeeded Hallam as dean in 1800).

Even though Dissenters and clergymen clashed at many subscription libraries in the eighteenth century, and the Dissenters were sometimes pushed out, as at Birmingham and Leeds,[42] the Bristol Library Society, at least in its early history, appears to exemplify the eighteenth-century ideology of politeness, as a space where religious and political combatants could associate in relative harmony.[43] This even-handedness extended to book selections approved by the committee, with the sermons of the High-Church Anglican George Horne and the moderate Presbyterian and Scottish Enlightener Hugh Blair ordered at the same meeting in March 1780. There are indications, however, that the Dissenting and Whig interest became weaker

[38] P. T. Underdown, 'Burke's Bristol Friends', *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society*, no. 77 (1958), 127–50.

[39] Burke to Champion, 9 March 1775, *The Correspondence of Edmund Burke,* ed. T.W. Copeland et al. (10 vols., Chicago, IL, 1958–1978), III, p. 131.

[40] J. E. Bradley, *Religion, Revolution and English Radicalism: Non-Conformity in Eighteenth-Century Politics and Society* (Cambridge, 1990), p. 77. See also Nicholas Rogers and Steve Poole, *Bristol from Below: Law, Authority and Protest in a Georgian City* (Woodbridge, 2017).

[41] At the 1774 election, the Tory candidate Matthew Brickdale received forty-four votes among the established clergy, despite coming third overall in the contest, behind the two successful Whig candidates, Henry Cruger and Burke, who received eight and six votes respectively from Church of England clergymen. See *The Bristol Poll Book (1774),* pp. iii–iv. There were indeed reports that the anti-Whig clergymen walked in procession to the polls to vote against Burke; see G. E. Weare, *Edmund Burke's Connection with Bristol, from 1774 till 1780* (Bristol, 1894), pp. 48–9, 77.

[42] K. A. Manley, 'Jeremy Bentham has been Banned: Contention and Censorship in Private Subscription Libraries before 1825', *Library & Information History,* 29 (2013), pp. 170–81.

[43] For the culture of politeness applied to eighteenth-century subscription libraries, see Allan, 'Politeness and the Politics of Culture'.

and the Anglican and Tory interest stronger with time. In 1827, John Evans wrote in the *Bristolian* that the name of the prominent scientist Thomas Beddoes (1760–1808), who lived in Bristol after 1794, had been crossed out of the membership list because he was 'not Blue enough'.[44] This anecdote should be taken with a pinch of salt, however. The minutes simply show that he acquired a share in 1794 and 're-transferred' it in 1796, and indeed the library ordered books by Beddoes at the end of the century.[45] Moreover, some Dissenters converted to Anglicanism, even if this was mainly due to political reasons. Joseph Harford was disavowed from the Society of Friends as he took the oaths to the Church of England upon entering Bristol's Common Council in 1779.[46]

General Meetings and the development of 'Subscriber Democracy'

The two sets of minutes presented here reflect the characteristic institutional structure of voluntary clubs and societies of this period, with operational control of the Society delegated to a committee elected by subscribers at an annual general meeting. This institutional structure – influentially termed 'subscriber democracy' by R. J. Morris – was adopted at a series of preliminary meetings of the prospective membership in December 1772 and January 1773 in which a set of rules and draft memoranda to the Bishop and the Common Council (discussed above) drawn up by the first committee were considered and approved.[47] Having dealt with the Society's name and terms of membership in rules one to five, rule six stipulated that general meetings should take place annually on the first Monday of February 'to inspect the affairs of the Society' and to elect the committee (p. 4). From 1776 onwards, the annual meeting was moved permanently to 'the Monday next preceding Lady Day' to fit more closely with the liturgical, legal and financial calendar (p. 9), although it was twice moved temporarily – first to accommodate the Assizes in 1780, and then again to avoid Easter Monday in 1788. Rule eight gave 'any Twelve members of the Society' the 'power to call an extraordinary general meeting', but this provision seems only rarely to have been invoked and then only in the most exceptional circumstances, as we shall see (p. 5).

The general meeting evidently became a major annual event in Bristol's print culture. Preparations got under way every year in January with printed reminders being sent out to every subscriber, and advertisements printed in the weekly papers. Ahead of the meeting on 24 March 1777, the committee ordered a list of the books purchased in the previous year to be printed together with 'sixty lists of the Committee and two hundred Cards to summon the Subscribers' (p. 75). This load was not untypical, and the regular costs so incurred ultimately led the committee to appoint John Rudhall as 'Printer to the Bristol Library Society' in 1786 (p. 133), signposting the Society's increasingly important role in the city's book trade as well as cultural life. These preparations also placed considerable demands on committee members; financial accounts were made up for scrutiny, lists of new books were

[44] Latimer, *Annals of Bristol,* p. 334.
[45] *1800 Supplement*.
[46] Peter Wakelin, 'The Harford Family', *ODNB*.
[47] Morris, 'Voluntary Societies', p. 101; see also Peter Clark, *British Clubs and Societies, 1580–1800: the Origins of an Associational World* (Oxford, 2000).

prepared and details of share transfers (permitted under rule five) were formally collated in the minute book, so that the correct subscribers were invited to attend.

The general meetings themselves followed a reasonably consistent agenda. They tended to open in ceremonial fashion with votes of thanks to long-term supporters (notably the Bishop of Bristol, as President), Society officers (especially the Vice-President and the Treasurer) and committee members, together with especially prominent donors. Until the library extension opened in 1789, general meetings were held at the Bush Tavern – and on one occasion at the Nag's Head in Wine Street – and it is plausible that these opening votes were accompanied by physical toasts.[48] Meetings then progressed to sign off on key administrative decisions made by the committee, including at the very first annual meeting in February 1773 the election 'by a large majority' of the clergyman Thomas Johnes as librarian (p. 7). One problem with this choice was that the City Library already had a librarian: the distinguished mathematician and mapmaker Benjamin Donn (1729–98), who expressed an interest in the same role at the Library Society.[49] Johnes drew up a petition to the Common Council, 'praying to be elected librarian', with several of Library Society members recommending him. On 27 March 1773, the Common Council voted unanimously to install Johnes as librarian, giving Donn the 'Liberty to continue in the Library House until the 24th day of June next'.[50] In fact, Donn's failure to keep the role had been reported in the *Bristol Journal* as early as 13 February. It is unclear why the Common Council decided to drop Donn with such ease. Donn had been elected as city librarian in 1768. His duties appear to have been light and he kept himself occupied with other business. Nothing came of his plans of converting the library into a mathematical academy, but he started an academy at Bristol, and published his *Young Shopkeeper's &c. Companion* (1768), which was specially compiled for that academy. According to his *ODNB* article, he taught his classes in the library, which may not have been popular, and contributed to the lack of support the received from the Common Council. Donn continued to give his lectures in experimental philosophy to subscribers at Kingston, near Taunton, where he relocated in 1775.[51]

While the Library Society quickly went about resolving the question mark over his election, the separate issue of Johnes's salary was deferred to the annual meeting of 1774, where it was agreed that he would receive twenty guineas per annum in arrears, together with 'an allowance of Coals and Candles for the use of the House' (p. 7) – in addition to the £12.10.0. he was to receive from the Corporation as city librarian as well as £20 as Infirmary Chaplain.[52] The librarian's salary remained at this level until March 1800, when the annual meeting agreed to an additional ten guineas 'as an augmentation of his Salary' (p. 32); this uplift was continued the following year. The

[48] For the prominence of food and drink at other subscription libraries and book clubs, see Christy Lindsay, 'Reading Associations in England and Scotland, c.1760–1830' (unpublished PhD thesis, University of Oxford, 2016), pp. 122–23; Towsey, 'First Steps', p. 480.

[49] *Bristol Journal,* 23 January 1773.

[50] Cited in Georges Lamoine, *La vie littéraire de Bath et de Bristol, 1750–1800* (2 vols., Lille and Paris, 1978), II, pp. 676–77.

[51] *ODNB*.

[52] Johnes was initially appointed chaplain to the Royal Infirmary on 9 November 1772, probably because he was curate to the local parish of St James's. There followed a bitter public dispute about how the post should be funded, with nonconformists objecting that he should not be paid from funds raised by subscribers; this dispute was only resolved in 1774 when the Corporation and the Society of Merchant Venturers agreed to pay £20 per annum towards the chaplaincy fund. For background and further discussion, see *Bristol Royal Infirmary*, pp. 36–40.

To the Right worshipful the Mayor, the worshipful the Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Common Council of the City of Bristol.

May it please your Worships,

I beg leave to offer myself as a candidate for the office of your Librarian; should I be so happy as to be favored with your approbation, I hope my care and attention to discharge the Duties of the office will be such as to obtain the continuance of it; which, both from Gratitude and Interest, would be the constant endeavor of

your Worships most humble servant

Thomas Johnes —

Recommended by

John Casberd — Mark Harford Junr

John Camplin — S. Munckley — Joseph Harford

John Deverell — S. Farr

Jd. Plomer — John Prior Estlin

Thos. Eagles — Samuel Love

John Ford — Jn. Peach

Wm. Barnett — W Buller

Application by Thomas Johnes for the position of City Librarian, endorsed by John Casberd, John Camplin, John Deverell, James Plomer, Thomas Eagles, John Ford, William Barrett, Mark Harford Junior, Samuel Munckley, Samuel Farr, John Prior Estlin, Samuel Love, John Peach, William Buller and Joseph Harford (all early committee members of the Bristol Library Society). Undated, but presumably after Johnes had been selected as the Library Society's librarian at the General Meeting on 8 February 1773. Bristol Archives, MS LIB/01402 (12).

librarian was also habitually granted 'such payments as the committee shall think proper' (p. 32), which seem to have been used to allow him to hire household staff for the Library (including a female housekeeper). This arrangement was formalised by the general meeting of 1791, which 'empowered' the committee 'to procure a Person to attend during the Library hours, to light the Fires and Candles, and to do the other menial offices of the Library' at a salary of ten guineas per annum (p. 22).[53]

In addition to managing Society servants, Johnes was instructed to keep a catalogue of the library's books, register their delivery and return, and inform the committee of any lost or damaged books. He also needed to collect the subscriptions, oversee the fund-raising effort for the new building (see below), transcribe the minutes of the Society – which is probably why the secretaryship disappeared within one year – and attend at the library between 10am to 1pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 6pm to 9pm on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays. The original opening hours eventually proved insufficient, and in March 1790 – by which time the Society's membership had swelled to 162 members – the general meeting voted to keep the library 'open five days in the week morning and evening at the accustomed hours', tasking the committee with working out how to provide the Librarian with 'the necessary assistance' (p. 21). This was clearly an unusual reversal to the conventional operational structure for which the committee seems to have been unprepared; implementing 'the intentions of the General Meeting' (p. 163) became a focus of the next three committee meetings, with the colourful George Symes Catcott appointed as assistant librarian after a hasty search. Catcott's salary of 20 guineas was retrospectively endorsed the following year, together with a further five guineas given to the librarian 'as compensation for the extra Trouble to the servant' (p. 164). Catcott's nephew recalled his uncle's practice at the closing time of the library:

> It was his custom to give warning to the readers at the Library, that it wanted but half of an Hour to 'Nine of the Clock' … then 'but ten minutes', 'but five' and then watch in hand he entered the inner room with 'Come Gentlemen, the time is up and I want to go' and then he began … to put out the candles.[54]

The Society's success brought to the fore further pressing questions about access and space. The general meeting of 1784 readily approved building plans tabled by the committee to create an annex on waste land adjoining the 1740 library building (detailed further below), and arrangements for the new building (including the funding arrangements, insurance, and the selection of trustees) were signed off by general meetings held in each of the following three years. The general meeting also approved a sequence of decisions that tended towards making the Society more exclusive, including successive increases in the entrance fee paid by new members from one guinea originally, to two guineas in 1774, four guineas in 1784 and six guineas in 1801, whilst the annual subscription fee remained £1.1.0. This incremental increase – forecast in the original regulations – reflected the increasing size of the book collection and correspondingly the increasing value of membership. However,

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[53] Arrangements for lighting, heating and cleaning the library also feature heavily in David Brazendale and Mark Towsey (eds.), *The First Minute Book of the Liverpool Athenaeum, 1797–1809* (Liverpool: The Record Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, 2020).

[54] Bristol City Reference Library, B5258, cited in Kathleen Hapgood, 'Library Practice in the Bristol Library Society, 1772–1830', *Library History,* no. 5 (1981), pp. 145–53, at 152.

it would also have acted to put the Society further out of reach of those without the ready capital to make such a sizeable investment.

Likewise, there are some indications that the general membership – through decisions voted on at Annual Meetings, rather than concocted beforehand by the committee – aimed to make the Society (and its books) more socially exclusive. This included the unusual vote on 21 March 1785 – without precedent in other libraries of this kind, as far as we know – to forbid any 'Person keeping a Lodging House, Inn, Tavern, Coffee House or any place of Entertainment' from joining the Society (p. 15). This may have reflected concerns that such subscribers would sub-let the library's books to their own customers, as reading material was often made available in inns and coffee houses. The decision evidently caught the committee off guard; those attending the next committee meeting hastily decided that by 'order' of the 'General Board' one John Dupont's subscription would have to be declined (p. 128), only for their decision to be reversed at the next general meeting in 1786 because Dupont's subscription money had been paid before the new regulation had come into force.[55]

Two more sweeping changes were voted in at the general meeting of 1801, which decreed that 'no Person be admitted a Member of this Society, until he shall have been previously proposed at one Meeting of the Committee, approved of by a majority of the Persons present at the next Meeting'. Not only would new members now need the social capital to pass successfully through this vetting procedure, it was also agreed that 'in future no new Subscriber shall have a vote at any meeting until twelve months after he shall have paid his first Subscription' (p. 31). This in effect created a probation period during which new members were not fully permitted to participate in the Library Society's 'subscriber democracy'.

One potential explanation for these exclusionary tendencies may lie in the Society's repeated concerns with election practices. The election of committee members was the general meeting's most important function, both at the Bristol Library Society (in accordance with rule six) and in other subscription libraries, clubs and societies across the English speaking world. Morris suggests that 'one subscription, one vote, was the general rule and uncontested elections the normal practice'.[56] Champion's letter shows us that this was not strictly the case at Bristol, where a full ballot was held to determine the committee of 1774.[57] Even so, existing committee members generally retained their place on the committee, with those who had passed away being replaced by new candidates who attracted the highest number of votes. Thus in 1774, the deceased Rev. Samuel Love was replaced by Richard Bright, whose twenty-four votes placed him higher on the list than any other member who had not previously sat on the committee. Existing committee man the Rev. John Camplin apparently did not achieve sufficient votes to retain his seat on the committee by open ballot, but the next new man on the list – the Rev.

[55] Dupont had evidently given up his 'Lodging and Boarding House' at No.1 Albemarle Row by November 1787, when an advertisement announced that a Mrs Mitchell had taken over the premises reassuring 'those ladies and gentlemen who may favour her with their company, may depend that their convenience and ease will be made her particular study'; *Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette*, 15 November 1787. He earlier operated a boarding house in Clifton 'facing the Long-Room Garden, near the Hot-Wells'; *Bath Chronicle and Weekly Gazette*, 5 March 1767.

[56] Morris, 'Voluntary Societies', p. 101.

[57] See appendix 3.

William Lee, with 17 votes – evidently declined so that Camplin could continue in place.[58]

Objections to the current voting system were raised as early as 1781, with the annual meeting of that year agreeing to debate 'any more eligible mode of election' the following year (p. 13). There is no record that that debate ever took place, but concerns clearly continued to develop under the surface. By 1789 the highly exceptional step was taken of calling an extraordinary general meeting in April 'for the purpose of considering the mode of electing committee men in future'. The key issue at stake seems to have been to find a way of securing a faster turnover of committee members by ruling that the six committee men of the preceding year with 'the fewest votes shall retire from the Committee at the end of the year', and that they should be replaced by the 'six of the Proprietors at large, not of the former Committee, who have the greatest number of Votes be added to the Committee the subsequent year' (p. 20). Whether this was to rid the Society of administrative inertia (by forcing inactive committee members to step down from post) or to make the Society less oligarchic is impossible to tell, and the proposal was in any case voted down by the membership.[59]

Although this debate did not recur subsequently in the minutes, the underlying issue may lie behind an unprecedented controversy – and perhaps the Library Society's most significant crisis in this period – surrounding the elections of 1799, when six new members were unprecedently elected to the committee. In accordance with rule eight, twelve Society members – including long-standing committee members the Rev. Richard Collinson, alderman and abolitionist Joseph Harford, and Bristol historian the Rev. Samuel Seyer, who was to succeed Casberd as Vice President in 1801 – protested that 'the late election of a Committee was conducted in a very exceptionable manner', and called for an extraordinary general meeting 'for the purpose of considering the circumstances of that election'. The resulting meeting discovered that 'a printed List, purporting to be a List of the Committee, and exactly resembling that circulated under the Sanction of the Society, but differing as to a part of the Names in that List, having been employed with a view to influence the Election'. This was agreed to be 'highly improper and should be guarded against in future', and a further resolution was agreed that any future election carried out by improper means should be void (p. 30).

The fraudulent document at the heart of the election controversy of 1799 relied on several features of the Society's administration to successfully influence the election. First, it took advantage of the general meeting's reliance on pre-circulated printed material, together with the assumption – apparently correct, given the success of the scheme – that many (perhaps most) ordinary members did not have a very well-developed understanding of who was already serving on the committee. Most importantly, though, it seems to confirm that the Society's conventional approach to elections was that existing committee members, if willing, continued to serve on the committee irrespective of the ballot's outcome. Although the result of the election of 1799 was not annulled as a result of the ensuing investigation, it is highly suggestive that four of the six serving committee members ejected in the contested election

[58] Camplin then served continuously until 1784. In 1760, Camplin had been appointed as librarian at Bristol Cathedral at £2 per annum to make a complete catalogue of its books; see Appendix 1, n.4.

[59] The failed proposal was not dissimilar to the regulation adopted from the outset at the later Liverpool Athenaeum (founded in 1797), where seven members of the twenty-one member committee would retire annually and be ineligible for re-election until the lapse of at least one year; Brazendale and Towsey (eds.), *Liverpool Athenaeum*, p. 19.

returned to the committee in 1800 (Estlin, Thomas Broughton, Thomas Eagles and William Milton; two further committee members ejected in 1799 were well into their eighties at this point, the merchant Samuel Munckley and the physician Plomer). Conversely, none of the six men elected for the first time in 1799 subsequently secured a seat on the committee; all were ejected in 1800.

Committee Meetings, Book Selection and a New Library Building

If general meetings blended ceremony with over-arching matters of governance – usually, but not always following the committee's lead – the committee was tasked with the day-to-day organisation of the library. Composed initially of twelve individuals, the preliminary meetings agreed on a final committee of twenty-one members, with the Bishop of Bristol a ceremonial (and generally absentee) President. The committee was to meet fortnightly, with at least six members necessary to form a quorum; each committee member contributed three shillings quarterly to a general kitty covering 'the expence of Tea and Coffee' (p. 43).

The business of the committee primarily involved decisions about what books to order, how to go about acquiring them and how to make them available to members. Subscribers had the right to propose books by sending a list to the librarian before the committee voted on them, a majority of which was needed to approve purchases. If there was an equal division, the president or vice president had a casting vote, and if both were absent the question was to be determined in the negative. The minutes record exclusively the books that were ordered and not the votes themselves. In the early years, the Library Society ordered a long list of books at each meeting, as it sought to build up its collection. The number of books ordered at each meeting inevitably dropped after several years, and sometimes the attendance at the meetings was too low to conduct any business. Committee members were forbidden from acquiring books for the library of their own choosing, although the fact that this regulation needed to be minuted several times in our period suggests that some books made their way into the collection this way regardless.

The Library Society ordered books primarily in English – Enlightenment classics and recent publications – but it also held a larger amount of reference books in foreign languages and classics in Latin and Greek than most comparable libraries in the eighteenth century, in part thanks to the books it inherited from the City Library. In the first instance, local agent John Brice Becket – 'long a respectable bookseller' on Corn Street, and also author of *An Essay on Electricity* (1773) – was appointed to supply books to the Society on a five percent commission.[60] The decision to rely primarily on a local supplier was not inevitable. Eighteenth-century bookshops were very different to their modern counterparts, and rarely held surplus stock on site. Becket would most likely have had to source many of the new and second-hand books ordered by the Society from wholesalers in London, which is why 'carriage' was built into his commission from the outset (p. 38).[61] Other libraries of this

[60] 'JBB' should be in square brackets (the original presumably spells out his name in full' and the Quaker burial reference near the end should be in square not round brackets as it is an editorial interpolation not in the original quotation.

[61] Allan, *Nation of Readers*, pp. 126–27; Thomas Stuart Willan (ed.), *An Eighteenth-Century Shopkeeper: Abraham Dent of Kirkby Stephen* (Manchester, 1970).

kind – including those in North America – often elected to cut out the middleman, dealing directly with London booksellers. Committee members at the newly formed Athenaeum library society and newsroom in Liverpool, for example, fought off a petition in 1799 from local booksellers who were scandalised by their decision to source books solely from the leading printer-bookseller firm of Cadell & Davies in London.[62] As Hapgood explains, the Bristol Library Society itself eventually went down this route for a brief time at the start of the nineteenth century, but this policy was soon reversed and the Society reverted to what would have been a more costly – but more civic-minded – relationship with a local supplier.[63]

As the Society grew in scale, confidence and ambition, committee members increasingly made use of a wider range of suppliers, searching for rarer or more expensive material in the regular sale catalogues printed by London booksellers. In some cases, the Society seems to have been targeted directly by these booksellers as a potentially lucrative long-term client. Thus William Cater donated to the Society a copy of John Anstis's *History of the Order of the Garter* (1725) in February 1775, while Thomas Cadell (founding partner and father of the Cadell who supplied the Liverpool Athenaeum) presented a very fine edition of *The Works of the Late Right Honourable Joseph Addison Esq*. (1761) by pioneering typefounder John Baskerville as early as August 1773.[64] Some of these donations may have been intended to recognise and support the aims and aspirations of an emerging cultural institution in an important provincial town. Richard Sher argues that Cadell was one of 'the great Scottish Enlightenment publishers [who] were far from neutral in their role as cultural brokers', marked out by 'their sense of commitment as purveyors of significant ideas and doers of good works'. In addition to the Scottish roots emphasised by Sher, Cadell also had impeccable Bristol connections – he was the son of a Bristol lawyer and nephew of a long-established Bristol bookseller (also named Thomas), so may have gifted the Baskerville edition to promote cultural improvement in the city of his birth.[65]

If altruism and civic pride potentially motivated unsolicited gifts from booksellers, they undoubtedly helped to initiate and sustain a richly rewarding commercial relationship. Take Ben White, for example, a successful bookseller operating at Horace's Head at the junction of Fleet Street and the Strand for more than 30 years before his retirement in 1792.[66] White donated to the Society a copy of his valuable folio edition of the *Designs of Inigo Jones, consisting of Plans & Elevations for Public & Private Buildings* (1770) at a time when work on the new Library building had commenced in 1784, but his generosity reflected what was already a long-standing partnership. White's annual sale catalogues are cited well over seventy

[62] Sean Moore, *Slavery and the Making of Early American Libraries: British Literature, Political Thought and the Transatlantic Book Trade, 1731–1814* (Oxford, 2019), especially pp. 20–21; Raven, *London Booksellers*; Wolf, *'At the Instance of Benjamin Franklin*', p. 10; Brazendale and Towsey (eds.), *Liverpool Athenaeum*, p. 17. For the firm of Thomas Cadell the younger and William Davies, see Richard B. Sher, *The Enlightenment & the Book* (Chicago, IL, 2006), pp. 378–79.

[63] The reversal of this decision, Hapgood suggests, reflects both 'a resurgence of the provincial attitude' and 'some powerful lobbying by local booksellers'; Hapgood, 'Library Practice', p. 148.

[64] For this edition, see Philip Gaskell, *John Baskerville: A Bibliography* (Cambridge, 2011), p. 36; Martin Killeen, 'After the "Perfect Book": English Printers and their Use of Baskerville's Type, 1767–90', in Caroline Archer-Parré and Malcolm Dick (eds.), *John Baskerville: Art and Industry in the Enlightenment* (Liverpool, 2019), pp. 185–205 (at p. 188).

[65] Sher, *Enlightenment & the Book*, p. 330.

[66] *ODNB*; brother of naturalist Gilbert White.

times in the committee minutes, and were often used to source specialised titles on antiquities and the natural world. The minutes of the meeting held on 8 April 1777, for example, replicated word-for-word the description of a lot in White's catalogue for August 1776:

> Ordered that Mr. Ford be desired to write to Mr. White, Bookseller in London, for 'A Capital Set of Books', consisting of the Ruins of Palmyra and Balbec, by Mr. Wood, 2 vol. 1753 & 59 – Ruins of the Emperor Diocletian's Palace at Spal[a]tro, by Adam, 1764 – Ruins of Poestum, by Major, 1768 – Ionian antiquities, by Chandler, Revett and Pars, 1769 – Reliquiae antiquae Urbis Romae, Amst. 1708 – Ruines de la Grece, par le Roy, 2 Tom. en 1. Par. 1770 – 7 vol. fine impressions of the plates, elegantly & uniformly bound by Roger Payne, 35£. White's Catalogue No. 117 (p. 76).[67]

Equally, the committee were able to exploit these established relationships to source high ticket items at the best possible price. White thus helped bring to a close the Society's long-running search for 'the best Edition' of the *Encyclopèdie*, offering the committee 'a good copy…which he can afford to sell on very reasonable Terms' in May 1780 (p. 95).

In addition to acquiring books on the open market, the committee oversaw two further means of collection development – subscription and donation. The Library Society subscribed in advance to at least forty publishing projects in this period. These ranged from the orthodox religious works of William Jones of Nayland to practical works on stenography (by Samuel Taylor) and perspective (by Thomas Malton), in addition to classical translations (including James Banister's edition of Euripides, William Cowper's editions of Homer and Thomas Francklin's edition of Lucian) and major multi-volume editions of canonical authors like Isaac Newton (in the shape of Samuel Horsley's authorised Royal Society edition in quarto), Shakespeare (John Boydell's lavish illustrated edition edited by George Steevens) and Voltaire (Pierre Beaumarchais's pioneering octavo edition of the complete works, which eventually stretched to seventy volumes).

Subscribing to books before they were published was an obvious way to expand the collection with works by well-known authors, but it also potentially served to enhance the Society's prestige both locally and nationally, off-setting Bristol's reputation for hard-nosed commercial success by broadcasting the city's cultural aspirations. In subscribing to Robert Holmes's collation of the *Septuagint*, for example, the committee added the Society's name to an illustrious printed list of subscribers which also 'included the universities of Cambridge and Dublin, Beilby Porteus, and nineteen other members of the bishops' bench'.[68] The Society likewise appears on the subscription list for the second edition of Mungo Park's *Travels in the Interior Districts of Africa* (London, 1799) alongside the Dukes of Buccleuch, Grafton, Montrose, Northumberland and Roxburghe; the Earls of Aylesbury, Dalkeith, Glasgow, Kerry, Moira and Morton; the Bishops of Chichester, Durham,

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[67] Compare: Benjamin White, *A Catalogue of a Large and Valuable Collection of Books, Containing a Ccapital Assortment of Useful, Learned and Curious Articles in all Languages and on all Subjects; ... to be sold on Thursday the 1st. of August, 1776* (London, 1776) [ESTC T12718], p. 2. This lot was the 17th lot in section 1, and had previously been offered at the higher price of £40 in White's catalogue of 1 February 1775 (ESTC T12998). Discussed also in Hapgood, 'Library Practice', p. 147.

[68] *ODNB*.

Llandaff and Winchester; national luminaries Sir Joseph Banks, Josiah Wedgewood and William Wilberforce; the Society for the Encouragement of the Arts and the Newcastle Literary and Philosophical Society; together with rival subscription libraries and book societies in Birmingham, Brompton, Truro, Deal, Exeter, Halifax, Kendal, London, Leeds, Macclesfield, Repton, Sittingbourne, Rochester, Stamford, Trowbridge, Warwick, Warminster and Great Yarmouth.

Subscription lists thereby placed the Library Society in very good company indeed, its name printed on the page for subsequent readers to see and admire. But purchasing books by subscription could also serve more specific aims and objectives. David Allan has argued that the committee of the Perth Library in central Scotland 'wished to impose a coherent institutional acquisitions policy' that stressed the cultural significance of 'Provincial Histories – by which are understood the histories of particular Counties, Parishes, Cities, Towns, Villages, Monuments of Antiquity etc.'.[69] Though the Bristol committee never articulated a similar ambition on paper, they did vote to subscribe to notable local projects like Isaac Taylor's *Map of the County of Gloucester*, John Collinson's *History and Antiquities of the County of Somerset* and most notably William Barrett's *History and Antiquities of the City of Bristol* (discussed below), in addition to antiquarian works by William Betham, Edward Davies and John Gutch. More importantly still, the committee subscribed to several projects with clear personal connections to Bristol or the Society itself, helping to make them a reality. These included *Poems, on Several Occasions* (1788) published (with assistance from Hannah More) by self-taught Bristol milkwoman Ann Yearsley, a posthumous collection of *Fifteen Sermons on Select Subjects* (1778) by local clergyman Thomas Broughton ('an industrious and diverse author with a distinct narrative gift' according to the *ODNB*, and the father of committee members Arthur and Thomas), and works by prominent Society members Samuel Farr and Samuel Seyer.[70]

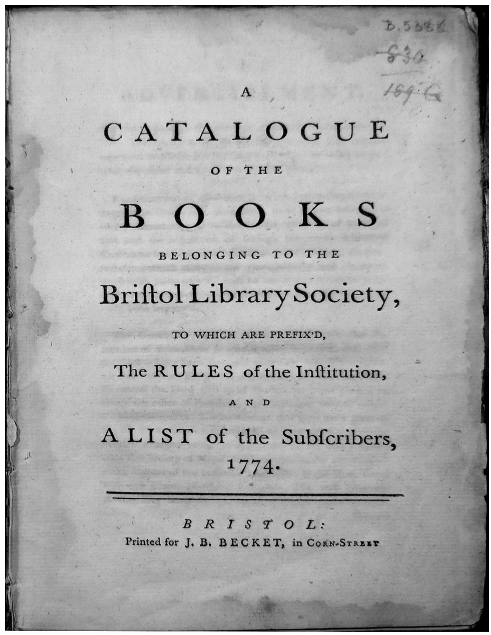
As an important local institution, the Library Society also attracted regular donations. The committee made arrangements very early on for a book listing donations to be maintained and for the names of all donors to be inscribed on 'the first blank leaf of each book'. In addition, the committee agreed in July 1773 to recommend to the next general meeting that 'any Person who shall give to the Society Books of the value of Twenty Pounds or upwards shall be deemed a Member for Life' (p. 39). This was a fairly conventional collections development tool at such libraries, employed with uneven success at the New York Society Library.[71] Bristol MP Matthew Brickdale, exceptionally, paid £20 cash for a life subscription in March 1773 before six months later donating his personal library to the Society 'subject to the same regulation as the others' (p. 41).[72] A large number of members donated books on a more modest basis, with committee members leading by example. Long-serving committee member Dr

[69] David Allan, 'Provincial Readers and Book Culture in the Scottish Enlightenment: The Perth Library, 1784–c.1800', *The Library*, 4 (2002), pp. 367–89, at 380.

[70] *ODNB*.

[71] Rob Koehler, 'Challenging Institutional Ambitions: The Practice of Book Exchanges at the New York Society Library', in Mark Towsey and Kyle B. Roberts (eds.), *Before the Public Library: Reading, Community, and Identity in the Atlantic World, 1650–1850* (Leiden, 2017), pp. 201–17. See also Wolf, *At the Instance of Benjamin Franklin*; and more broadly, Suzanne M. Stauffer, 'In their Own Image: The Public Library Collection as a Reflection of its Donors', *Libraries & the Cultural Record*, 42 (2007), pp. 387–408.

[72] 'A Catalogue of Mr. Brickdale's Books', in *Catalogue 1774*. The appendix has separate pagination.



A
CATALOGUE
OF THE
BOOKS
BELONGING TO THE
Briſtol Library Society,
TO WHICH ARE PREFIX'D,
The RULES of the Inſtitution,
AND
A LIST of the Subſcribers,
1774.

BRISTOL:
Printed for J. B. BECKET, in Corn-Street

A Catalogue of the Books Belonging to the Bristol Library Society, to which are Prefixed, the Rules of the Institution and a List of the Subscribers (Bristol: J. B. Becket, 1774).

James Plomer gifted 'fifty volumes on medical subjects' (p. 213), while Richard Bright, Thomas Eagles, W. B. Elwyn, John Prior Estlin, William Milton, Seyer and James Tobin all donated books at one time or another. As discussed further below, it soon became standard practice for members who were also active authors to donate copies of their own works to the Society, including Elizabeth (or Eliza) Sotheby, who donated her *Patient Griselda* (1798), a retelling of part of Boccaccio's *Decameron*, in addition to several works published by her brother, the poet and translator William Sotheby.

If the Library Society thereby became something of a repository of members' publications, the donor list also includes several authors who were not Society members. William Sotheby supplemented his sister's donations by gifting a copy of his own *Siege of Cuzco* (1800), while two of the Society's emerging specialisms were reflected in the authorial gifts of physician Sayer Walker's *A Treatise on Nervous Diseases* (1796) and Irish antiquarian Joseph Cooper Walker's *Historical Memoirs of the Irish Bards* (1786). The donation of William Seward's *Anecdotes of Some Distinguished Persons* (1795–97) points in a different direction, connecting the Library Society both to the naked commercialism of the London book world and to one of the most celebrated literary circles of the age.

Once books had arrived at the library, the committee's next task was to oversee the work of the librarian in ensuring that they were made readily available to readers. In February 1774, the committee agreed that the books should be divided into nine categories: theology, history, jurisprudence, philosophy, mathematics, natural history, medicine, belles lettres, and miscellanies.[73] History was extended to include travel literature, and quickly became the largest and most popular category at the library, as Paul Kaufman demonstrated:

[73] This simple structure was revamped in the nineteenth century, as is evidenced in *Catalogue 1814*, pp. xix–xxii.

Table 1: The ten most popular categories at Bristol, 1773–84.[74]

Category	Total Loans	Number of Titles	Loans/Title
History, Antiquities and Geography	6,121	283	21.6
Miscellanies	949	48	19.8
Philosophy	844	59	14.3
Belles Lettres	3,313	238	13.9
Natural Philosophy and Chemistry	816	71	11.5
Jurisprudence	447	53	8.4
Theology and Ecclesiastical History	606	82	7.4
Mathematics	276	42	6.6
Medicine and Anatomy	124	24	5.2

While the first printed catalogue (of 1774) was arranged by size, the committee agreed to draft a 'fresh' one in 1778 with the books ranged 'according to their several subjects' (p. 80). No trace of this catalogue survives, but its categorisations probably carried over into the printed catalogue of 1782 – the only one to survive with the books arranged by subject. Subsequent catalogues of 1790 and 1798, together with a printed supplement of 1800, simply arranged the books alphabetically, although it is clear that some kind of categorised list of books continued to be maintained throughout the 1790s. The committee twice (in 1791 and 1800) discussed a backlog of uncategorised books, ordering in May 1800 that the 550 volumes 'which are not yet classed be, as soon as possible, put into their proper places, as far as there is room for them' (p. 244). By this time, certain categories ('History, Philosophy, Mathematics, Belles-Lettres, Miscellanies') had been moved into the 'New Library' (discussed below), with the Librarian instructed by the committee in April 1795 'to procure a Sketch or Map of the situation of the Books in each Room of the Library' (p. 202).

For most of the Society's first two decades, borrowing books was reasonably unregulated. The initial rules drawn up by the organising committee in January 1773 touched on borrowing procedures only once, with the same text retained in the 1798 printed catalogue:

> On the Inside of the cover of each Book a Ticket shall be fixed, expressing how long each Member may keep it, and the Fine for exceeding that Time. If more than one Member apply for the same Books at the Same Time, the Preference to be determined by Lot. The Names of Such as apply for a Book that is engaged to be noted down, that they may have it when returned, in Rotation. Each Member to give a Receipt for the Book taken away. (p. 5)

[74] Kaufman, *Borrowings from the Bristol Library*, p. 121. For the importance and popularity of history in the period, see especially Mark Towsey, *Reading History in Britain and America,* c.*1750*–c.*1840* (Cambridge, 2019).

Book borrowing was so relaxed in the early years that the committee briefly explored the possibility of establishing a delivery service, whereby subscribers could contribute an additional shilling annually 'to have such books as he shall chuse to read, sent to his house, and fetch'd back when the limited time for keeping them is expired' (p. 43). Nothing seems to have come of this unusual proposal, but as the number of members increased, pressure on the collection led the committee to take several drastic steps to ease access to books. The committee's recommendation that 'no Subscriber be allowed to have more than one Book at a time' (p. 26), approved by the general meeting of 1796, clearly went one step too far, with the general meeting held the following year agreeing instead to allow each member to borrow two books at a time; in both cases, a multi-volume set counted as a single book. At the beginning of the decade, the committee had already decided to place certain books marked with a cross in the printed catalogue under restricted access. Most of the books listed were folios and therefore both difficult to handle and expensive to replace, but the list also included several volumes with irreplaceable manuscript material including a 'Roll, containing a List of the Mayors, Prepositors, Bayliffs & Sheriffs of Bristol &c.' and a manuscript volume 'containing a particular Account of a Curious Cobweb, of Penparkhole &c.' (p. 160; probably pre-publication notes compiled by assistant librarian Catcott, who Jonathan Barry describes as an 'inveterate submitter of items to the newspapers').[75] These volumes joined several outsized items for which special arrangements had to be made, including the atlas 'bound in Russix Leather' for which a stand was solicited in January 1774 and Rennell's map of Hindostan which had been 'pasted on Canvas and put on Rollers' in December 1789, together with a growing collection of globes and scientific instruments supplemented in March 1793 by the deposit of 'apparatus' belonging to an unnamed 'Philosophical Society' (p. 23).[76]

If tighter rules governing book borrowing indicate that the Society's collection struggled to keep pace with a rapid rise in the number of subscribers, it is also clear that the number of books very quickly outgrew the original 1740 building signed over by the Common Council. The committee had always had oversight of the building, and early meetings were preoccupied with making the library room fit for purpose. Indeed, the committee was forced to adjourn for three months while renovations to the King Street building – paid for by the Common Council – were completed, and it was only in June 1773 that the committee reconvened to make arrangements for the library's formal opening on 1 July. A first winter in the library room brought with it more business for the committee, including the task of finding 'a proper & effectual method of warming the Library-room' finally resolved by the acquisition of a stove

[75] This probably refers to a manuscript volume entitled 'Notes on Bristol Churches, Pen Park hole, Jack the painter, the great cobweb &c by George Catcott, c.1790', now held at BA: 45934/84. This item was previously held by the Bristol Reference Library (reference number B6491), which holds manuscript material relating to the Library Society. Catcott's publications include *A Descriptive Account of a Descent Made into Penpark-Hole* (Bristol, 1792); see appendix 4. For further discussion of George Catcott's transcriptions and note-taking (including his notes on 'a huge cobweb measuring three feet six inches from top to bottom found in a room just cleaned'), see Jonathan Barry, *Raising Spirits: How a Conjuror's Tale was Transmitted across the Enlightenment* (Basingstoke, 2013), pp. 56–58 (quotation at p. 57).

[76] Bristol had no formal society until the foundation of the Literary and Philosophical Society in about 1809, so this was presumably the 'transient and momentary' Bath Philosophical Society, which was a stop-start affair founded in 1779 and reformed in 1799; Michael Neve, 'Natural Philosophy, Medicine and the Culture of Science in Provincial England: The Cases of Bristol, 1790–1850 and Bath 1750–1820' (unpublished PhD thesis, University of London, 1984), pp. 34, 40, 134.

deemed 'very fit' for the purpose and 'considerably under prime cost' in March 1774 (p. 53). Subsequent committee meetings discussed the need to adapt specific items of furniture for the library space, the possibility of fitting 'oaken framed doors with brass wire' to the bookcases (perhaps to protect books from light and dust), and the addition of a 'Glass Partition and Door' in the hallway, presumably to insulate the main library room from the additional traffic into and out of the building brought about by enlarged opening hours and a swollen membership (p. 164).

As the collection matured, it soon became obvious that more space would be needed to accommodate the library. Local architect and builder William Paty twice attended the committee in the Society's first decade to discuss potential plans for an annex to be built on the 'void ground' adjoining the original building, and by 1784 the 'great increase of books' persuaded the general meeting of subscribers to approve the committee's plan (p. 118). Paty was instructed to oversee a tender process for builders and tradesmen to work on the project, with James West[77] hired to build to Patty's designs at a cost of £495; the total cost forecast for the building, finish and furnishing came to £660. Paty was to inspect progress on a regular basis, calling an extraordinary meeting of the committee in February 1786 to inspect the finished building.[78]

Having ceded project management to Paty, the committee was free to concentrate on the not inconsiderable task of raising sufficient funds for the new building. Alderman John Merlott reported to his fellow committee members in February 1785 that the Common Council was 'pleased to grant' the Society the void ground on which the annex would be built, together with a donation of £100 'towards defraying the expense of fronting the intended Building with Free stone' (p. 125) – presumably to ensure that the annex blended into its prestigious surroundings.[79] The balance was to come generally from subscribers, who were hounded (with increasing urgency) for contributions for at least the next three years. The committee drew up 'a List of those Subscribers who have not yet contributed towards the Building…arranged by Parishes' in September 1786. The following month a printed letter was sent to one hundred names soliciting their 'kind Assistance' in helping the Society complete the undertaking, stressing 'that every Subscriber will have an equal Interest as well in the Building as in the Books'. The letter explained that 79 subscribers had volunteered £331.16.0. so far, leaving some £200 still to be raised (pp. 136–37). In the meantime, the committee agreed to rent out the lower room of the new annex 'for a counting-house' (p. 142); Messrs Lowbridge and Richard Bright, a firm of West India merchants with considerable slave-holding interests and impeccable links to the Society's committee, agreed to take on a seven-year lease on the ground floor of the annex (renewable for a further seven-year term), making up some of the shortfall

[77] Identified as a mason in the minutes, below. Although this man does not appear in the directories from this period, a mason of the same name was one of three parishioners who produced a report on major structural faults discovered in a routine inspection of St Thomas's Church in 1786, leading to its demolition in 1791. West was then part of the team employed to construct the new building completed in 1793; Joseph Bettey, 'St Thomas's Church, Bristol: From Medieval Splendour to Classical Elegance', *The Regional Historian*, 11 (2004), pp. 2–7.

[78] See Gordon Priest, *The Paty Family: Makers of Eighteenth-century Bristol* (Bristol, 2003).

[79] For the built environment, see Hapgood, *Friends to Literature*, pp. 4–6.

The Library in 1876, from J. F. Nicholls and John Taylor, *Bristol Past and Present* (Bristol: Arrowsmith, 1882). The extension completed in 1786 is on the left, with the rooms originally let out to Messrs Lowbridge and Richard Bright on the ground floor.

in contributions to the building works from subscribers and further securing the Society's financial future.[80]

The committee continued to tinker with the new space into the last decade of the century. A larger chimney piece was ordered for the new reading room (indicating that the original design had not sufficiently warmed the room), while the committee prevaricated for some time over a plan to extend the shelving space in the annex by erecting a gallery supported by cast-iron pillars. Committee members also thought carefully about how best to make the most of the space available in the new room, instructing the librarian 'that the upper shelf next under the gallery be so placed as to permit the two upper rows of books to be octavos' and that the shelving be taken into 'the corner of the Gallery behind the stairs' (p. 150). Such detailed instructions show that space in the annex was already at a premium, with accommodation set to be the committee's most pressing concern in the early decades of the nineteenth century.[81] In the meantime, a commemorative tablet placed in the New Library in March 1790 by the committee recorded the names of those who had contributed financially to the scheme, and no doubt helped to shame some who had not yet done so to stump up for their share.

The Library and the Politicians

The Library Society was actively supported by the city's MPs from its inception. On 2 February 1773, the library's chairman presented a letter from Robert Nugent, known in Bristol as Lord Clare after the title of his Irish peerage, who had represented the city since 1754. The letter expressed Clare's intention of becoming a member of the library and referred to Daniel Harson for his subscription. At the same meeting, a letter was presented from Matthew Brickdale, Bristol's second representative since 1768 – most English constituencies had two representatives at this time – which also expressed his intention of becoming a member, and 'desir[ed] to be informed, whether an annual subscription or for Life would be most acceptable' (p. 37). In the event, both Clare and Brickdale became members for life of the library, a status that was obtainable for the price of fifteen guineas or more, fifteen times higher than the regular entrance fee at this time.[82]

Both Clare and Brickdale lost their seats at the general election held in the autumn of 1774. Their example to become members for life was followed by one of the city's new representatives, Edmund Burke – who was formally invited to stand by Champion and whose close supporters were key members of the library – though not by Burke's fellow MP, Henry Cruger, who remained a regular member. This is probably due to the fact that Burke's close supporters and local agents in Bristol were leading members of the library, especially Richard Champion and Joseph Harford. The library's first printed catalogue includes four asterisked donations from Burke: a quarto edition of Burke's *Speech on American Taxation* (1775), and the

[80] This arrangement, with the library occupying the upper floors and the ground floor leased out to commercial enterprise, can still be seen at the surviving premises of the Leeds Library, founded in 1768. On the Bright family's trade papers, see Kenneth Morgan (ed.), *The Bright-Meyler Papers: A Bristol-West India Connection, 1732–1837* (Oxford, 2007) and Alison Brown and Jonathan Harlow (eds.), *Atlantic Venture Accounts of Eighteenth Century Bristol* (Bristol, 2021).

[81] Hapgood, *Friends to Literature*, especially pp. 17–19.

[82] For Brickdale's separate donation of books, see above pp. xxix.

octavo editions of his *Vindication of Natural Society* (1756), *Observations on a Late State of the Nation* (1769), and *Thoughts on the Cause of the Present Discontents* (1770).[83] In reality, it is likely that these donations were made by Champion and his other supporters on the committee in a bid to strengthen Burke's status in his new constituency. This is highly plausible since Burke later said that he had not spent a single penny of his money at the election, which is reputed to have cost his campaign – organised by Champion and Harford – £10,000.[84]

The willingness of Bristol's MPs to support the Library Society shows how well regarded it was from its beginning. It would be naïve to think that this support was entirely derived from public spiritedness and civic mindedness. Becoming members for life through liberal donations of money and books was a way for the city's MPs to gain support and either make or strengthen connections with influential people in Bristol, but it was not foolproof. Crucially, both Clare and Brickdale lost their seats shortly after supporting the library. Their replacement Burke also lost his popularity in Bristol quickly, despite having powerful friends in the Library Society. The electorate of Bristol of 5,000 was much larger than the library's membership of just over 100 members in the 1770s, and there were many other powerful forces at play in the city. Burke withdrew from the election of 1780 at an early stage when he realised that it was impossible for him to hold onto his seat. He had made himself unpopular in the city at large by supporting the easing of Ireland's trade restrictions with England a few years earlier,[85] and he could not overcome that obstacle, despite being continuously supported by influential library members. Out of the sixteen members of the Bristol Common Council who were listed in an election pamphlet for Burke as his supporters in 1780, fourteen were members of the library.[86]

After Burke, no other MPs in the eighteenth century became members for life of the library, but many of them were regular members, and some of them who were residents also used the library frequently. Brickdale was re-elected for Bristol in 1780, together with the other 'Tory' candidate, Sir Henry Lippincott, who was also a library member. When Lippincott died in 1781, the Steadfast Society replaced him with George Daubeny, who was a longstanding committee member of the library and a regular borrower.

Library members were often members of other local associations and clubs, many of which were political. At least thirty-two of the library's members belonged at one time in the eighteenth century to the city's Steadfast Society, which had traditionally represented the Tory interest in the city, and nominated the city's Tory MPs, who were regularly library members, as we have seen.[87] Several library members were also members of the Union Club, the Whig society in Bristol, but it is difficult to determine the exact number since the minutes for this society have not survived. It is clear, however, that Champion and Harford were leading members.

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[83] *Catalogue 1774*, pp. 19, 22.

[84] F.P. Lock, *Edmund Burke* (2 vols., Oxford, 1999–2006), I, p. 471.

[85] See *Two Letters from Mr. Burke to Gentlemen in the City of Bristol, on the Bills Depending in Parliament Relative to the Trade of Ireland* (London, 1778).

[86] *A Speech of Edmund Burke, Esq. at the Guildhall, in Bristol, Previous to the Late Election in that City, upon Certain Points Relative to His Parliamentary Conduct* (London, 1780), p. 68.

[87] BA: 8/2, Society of Merchant Venturers.

The Library as a Patron of Local Literature

While the Library Society was heavily integrated – but not a decisive player – in local politics, it soon became of profound importance to local writers and literary culture, holding a large collection of books by authors from Bristol and its vicinity. While the library's collecting impulses (especially the reciprocal acts of subscription purchasing and authorial donations) are detailed above, it is worth emphasising that for whatever reason not all relevant donations were recorded in the minutes transcribed here. For example, eleven tracts by Josiah Tucker (1713–99), Dean of Gloucester and Rector of St Stephens in Bristol, who was one of the most famous men of letters residing in Bristol at this time (though not a member of the library), are asterisked in the library catalogues as donations but are not recorded as such in the minutes.[88] The library also held books by members who were published authors, including three copies of Samuel Johnson's friend Francesco Sastres's *Introduction to the Italian Grammar* (Bristol, 1775). Sastres, a foreign language teacher, was never a committee member, but he used the library 57 times between 1773 and 1778, and borrowed books in English as well as in French. Interestingly, the purchase of the three copies of Sastres's *Introduction* is not recorded in the minutes, so they may represent another undocumented donation.

The Library Society figures prominently in the lives and reading experiences of two early historians of Bristol who were both prominent committee members of the library: William Barrett (1733–1789) and Samuel Seyer (1757–1831).[89] Barrett was originally from Notton in Wiltshire, and educated at Winchester College. At the age of seventeen, he was apprenticed for seven years to the apothecary and barber-surgeon T. Rosewell, who had a practice in Bristol. Having acquired the skills to become a surgeon and midwife, Barrett began his medical career in Bristol in 1751. He turned up to the first public meeting of the library on 15 December 1772, and he was elected as a committee member on the same occasion. Though a regular borrower, he attended the committee meeting infrequently and not for long, being present for the last time on 17 May 1774. The historian Barrett was suitably present at the committee meeting on 3 August 1773, when the society ordered David Hume's *History of England* and William Robertson's *History of Charles V,* which would become among the library's most popular books in the eighteenth century, with 180 and 131 loans respectively between 1773 and 1784.[90] Unsurprisingly, Barrett used the library to borrow historical works himself, and the first book he checked out was the first volume of John Dalrymple's *Memoirs of Great Britain* (1771) in September 1773.[91]

By the time of the library's founding, Barrett had already worked on his history of Bristol for at least a decade, but his surgery kept him so busy that it would take another fifteen years before the work was published. A portrait from 1764, when Barrett was

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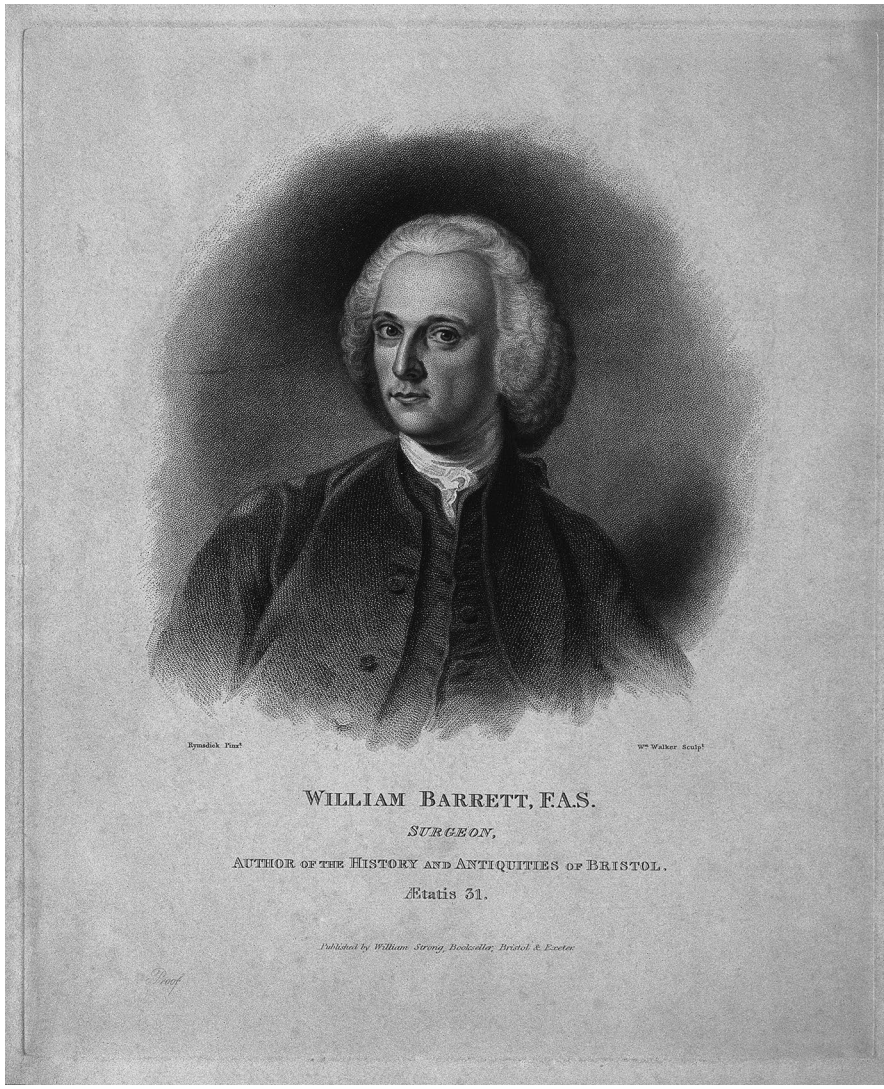
[88] *ODNB*; Tucker is perhaps best known for *A Treatise Concerning Civil Government* (1781), American tracts such as *Cui Bono?* (1781) and various works on political economy.

[89] See especially Joseph Bettey, *The First Historians of Bristol: William Barrett and Samuel Seyer* (Bristol Branch of the Historical Association, 2003); Jonathan Barry, 'The History and Antiquities of the City of Bristol: Chatterton in Bristol', *Angelaki – Journal of the Theoretical Humanities*, 1 (1996), pp. 55–82; Jonathan Barry, '"A Provincial Enlightener": Andrew Hooke of Bristol, Whig Writer and Newspaper Proprietor in the Reign of George II', in *The Lantern of History: Essays in Honour of Jeremy Black*, ed. R. Berman and J. Gibson (Goring Heath, 2020).

[90] Kaufman, *Borrowings from the Bristol Library*, p. 122.

[91] Bristol Central Library: B22812, 'Registers of the Bristol Library Society'.



William Barrett, aged 31. Stipple engraving by W. Walker after J. van Rymsdick (1764). Wellcome Collection. Public Domain Mark.

31 years old, described him as a 'Surgeon and Author of the "History and Antiquities of Bristol."' When Barrett's *History and Antiquities of Bristol* was finally published in 1789, the Library Society was one of the subscribers to the work (as noted above), along with many individual committee members and regular members.[92] It was dedicated to Levi Ames, Mayor of Bristol at the time and a longstanding member and user of the library. Unsurprisingly, Barrett's *History* became a popular book at the library in the 1790s, and it included a triumphant section on its founding. According to Barrett, the previous Library House had

> received great improvement and a new establishment by the Bristol Library Society, having this place granted them with the use of the books of the old library by the corporation, and by a new wing being added to the former building in 1786, to hold the number of books now added yearly to the former collection, purchased by the money arising from the annual subscribers and other benefactors, that it now contains a large select collection of books in various sciences and languages of the best editions, which each subscriber under certain rules and regulations, has the liberty to take home to peruse at his leisure[.][93]

Alas, Barrett's work was poorly received outside of Bristol, and was harshly criticised in a review in the *Gentleman's Magazine*. Barrett had been misled by the young forger Thomas Chatterton (1752–70) and relied heavily on Chatterton's fabrications of the invented fifteenth-century poet 'Thomas Rowley'. Among the library's holdings can be found many of Chatterton's Rowley poems, along with denunciations and critiques of them. Catcott, who later became assistant librarian, was also a key supporter of Chatterton's forgeries, and donated Rowley poems with manuscript annotations in June 1777. The year before, Samuel Johnson had visited Bristol to enquire into the authenticity of Rowley's poems, as he had done with James Macpherson's *Ossian* poems. He met both Barrett and Catcott, but they did not manage to convince Johnson, who said of Chatterton: 'This is the most extraordinary young man that has encountered my knowledge. It is wonderful how the whelp has written such things.'[94] Chatterton had already been dead for six years by this time, having committed suicide in London at the age of seventeen.[95] The *Gentleman's Magazine* ridiculed Barrett for falling prey to Chatterton's forgeries, and it has plausibly been suggested that the harsh reception of the *History* shortened Barrett's life, as it worsened his already declining health. He died on 13 October 1789.[96] The *Gentleman's Magazine* wrote a kinder obituary of Barrett, stressing that his *History* was the first detailed work on the city's history based on documentary evidence.

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[92] William Barrett, *History and Antiquities of Bristol* (Bristol, 1789), p. ix. For the support of local civic identities among local 'elites', see especially Sweet, *Urban Histories*.

[93] Ibid., p. 508.

[94] James Boswell, *Life of Samuel Johnson* (2 vols., London, 1791), II, pp. 70–1. This edition was ordered by the Library Society in May 1791.

[95] Nick Groom, *Thomas Chatterton and Romantic Culture* (New York and London, 1999); A. Hayes (ed.), *From Gothic to Romantic: Thomas Chatterton's Bristol*; Barry, 'The History and Antiquities of the City of Bristol'; Basil Cottle, 'Thomas Chatterton', in *Bristol in the Eighteenth Century,* pp. 89–108. See also George Gregory, *The life of Thomas Chatterton, with Criticism on his Genius and Writings, and a Concise View of the Controversy Concerning Rowley's Poems* (London, 1789). This book was ordered by the library in October 1791.

[96] Bettey, *The First Historians of Bristol,* p. 12.

Bristol's second historian was, if anything, even more closely connected to the Library Society. Seyer was educated at Bristol Grammar School, where his father was master, and Corpus Christi College, Oxford, where he obtained a BA in 1772 and an MA in 1776. In 1780, he was ordained and became curate of Westbury-on Trym, and master of Bristol's Royal Fort School in 1790. The same year Seyer was elected as a committee member of the Library Society, having been a regular user of the library since the early 1780s. He attended the committee frequently, and in 1801 when Casberd stepped down as vice president, Seyer was elected to this prominent and prestigious position. In the nineteenth century, he played a leading role in the Literary Club which met during the winter months at the Bush Tavern.[97] As an educator, Seyer was a strict disciplinarian who beat his pupils. Both Seyer's pupil Andrew Crosse, who made important discoveries in the early use of electricity, and the poet Robert Southey, one of the most famous members of the Library Society, have retold a curious incident: during the threat of invasion by the French army in 1797, when Seyer's pupils were equipped with rifles for protection, they conceived a plan of shooting their master because of his harsh regime. However, the plot was discovered, and Seyer's life saved.[98]

Seyer's reputation as a historian has been much greater than Barrett's, both in his own lifetime and subsequently. He was Barrett's friend, however, and paid handsome tribute to his predecessor in his published work: 'with him I was in the constant habit of conversation, and sometimes saw what he wrote before it was printed; and it is for the purpose of avoiding any interference with his title, that I call my own book, *Memoirs of Bristol*.'[99] Before his *Memoirs, Historical and Topographical, of Bristol and its Neighbourhood* (2 vols., 1821–3), Seyer had published *Charters and Letters Patent Granted to the Town and City of Bristol* (1812). A modern historian has written that Seyer's two works 'remain foundations for all subsequent writers on Bristol history'.[100] Seyer also published *The Principles of Christianity* (1796), *The Syntax of Latin Verbs* (1798), *Observations on the Causes of Clerical Non-Residence* (1808), *A Treatise of the Modern Use of the Latin Language* (1808), and occasional sermons.

As a historian, Seyer emphasised the study of original documents. Alas, Bristol's mayor and Common Council initially refused to allow him to inspect the originals of Bristol's charters in the Council House. Instead, he had to rely on copies in the Bodleian Library in Oxford for his *Charters and Letters Patent granted to the Town and City of Bristol* (1812), for which he heavily criticised the Common Council in its introduction. Joseph Bettey has argued that the refusal stemmed from a fear that publication of the charters would raise questions concerning the legality of some of the privileges claimed by the city and its councillors. The publication of John Brand's *History of Newcastle* (1789) – ordered by the Library Society in 1790 – had resulted in 'lost town-dues of great value'.[101] The oligarchic tendencies of Bristol's local politics was satirised by the 'radical' library member Robert Lovell Jr[102] (1771–96):

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[97] Latimer, *Annals of Bristol in the Nineteenth Century,* pp. 143–4.

[98] Bettey, *The First Historians of Bristol*, p. 13.

[99] Samuel Seyer, *Memoirs, Historical and Topographical, of Bristol and its Neighbourhood* (2 vols., Bristol, 1821–3), I, pp. v–vi.

[100] Bettey, *The First Historians of Bristol*, p. 12.

[101] Ibid., p. 16.

[102] Lovell was from a Quaker family, but married a non-Quaker. His father, Dr. Robert Lovell (*c*. 1753–1823), was elected to the library committee in 1798.

'Oppression, frequent as the varying hour, / Still marks this mighty *self elected* power; / To them the exclusive charter'd power belong, / "The right" and privilege "of doing wrong".'[103] Seyer's Tory politics was very different from Lovell's, however, and by the time he published his two-volume history of Bristol in 1821 and 1823, his conflict with the Common Council had ceased. In exchange for a contribution of 200 guineas, the work was indeed dedicated to the mayor, aldermen and Common Council.

Seyer sought to foster local patriotism and pride in Bristol's history, with his declared intention of tracing its progress 'from an humble and oppressed situation to wealth, power and independence'.[104] His narrative finished in 1760, which precluded any discussion of the library. It was left to Seyer's successor John Latimer to briefly sketch its founding in his *Annals of Bristol in the Eighteenth Century,* based on the original minutes.[105]

If Barrett and Seyer both represented Tory Bristol, books written by library members also represented the Whig interest in the city. Among the early members, Richard Champion was not without literary aspirations. In the 1774 election campaign, he wrote anonymously for Burke in the local press.[106] Habitually despatching much of what he wrote to the fireplace, in the 1780s Champion finally published two political works in his own name, one of which was translated into French.[107] His *Considerations on the Present Situation of Great Britain and the United States of America, with a View to Their Future Commercial Connections* (1784) was written against John Baker Holroyd, 1st Earl of Sheffield's *Observations on the Commerce of the American States* (Dublin, 1783).[108] Champion's *Considerations* was first published anonymously, but his name appeared on the second, extended edition of this work. It was a forceful defence of free trade, as it implored Britain not to impede the economic development of America and instead seek to expand the commercial interactions between the two countries. Onboard a ship to America later in 1784 he began drafting his *Comparative Reflections on the Past and Present Political, Commercial, and Civil State of Great Britain,* which was eventually published in 1787. Much of the book was an exposition of the political creed of the Rockingham Whigs; in other words, a celebration of the aristocratic Whig system of politics under George I and George II and a denunciation of the so-called Court system of George III after his accession in 1760. It was highly indebted to Burke's *Thoughts on the Cause of the Present Discontents* (1770) – which Champion borrowed from the

[103] Robert Lovell, *Bristol: A Satire* (London, 1794), p. 16. According to this satire, Champion's hope of transforming the city's reputation via the library had proved falsifiable: 'Trade, mighty trade, here holds restless sway, / And drives the nobler cares of *mind* away. / To this sole object every effort tends, / And virtue dies and *pliant* honor bends / No soft humanities are cherished here, / No sympathetic feeling prompts the tear: / No mild urbanity attracts the sight, / No arts of skill or elegant delight'. The satire was also scathing about the slave trade: 'Thus man perverts what heav'n intended good, / And dies the growing plant with human blood; / Slaves torn and mangled, cultivate the sweet, / That trade may thrive, and luxury may eat.' (pp. 10–11, 14).

[104] Seyer, *Memoirs, Historical and Topographical, of Bristol and its Neighbourhood,* p. v.

[105] Latimer, *Annals of Bristol,* pp. 403–4.

[106] Weare, *Edmund Burke's Connection with Bristol,* preface.

[107] Richard Champion, *Réflexions sur l'état actuel de la Grande-Bretagne, comparativement avec son état passé, tant politique que civil, & sur son commerce, accompagnées de quelques pensées touchant l'émigration. Par Richard Champion, ... Traduit ... par M. Soulés* (Paris, 1788).

[108] Somewhat ironically, Sheffield donated several books to the library, including his *Observations*; see Appendix 4 for further details.

library – but it also reflected his wider reading, with long citations from Burke's bête noire Bolingbroke.[109]

Among the library's original members and longstanding committee members was also John Prior Estlin, who had been educated at the Dissenting Academy in Warrington by John Aikin and Joseph Priestley, the latter of whom organised subscription libraries at Leeds and Birmingham.[110] Estlin was invited by Lewin's Mead in Bristol as a colleague to the Rev. Thomas Wright and became a minister in 1771. Estlin opened a school in Bristol and unlike Seyer he treated his pupils with 'great liberality'. His former pupils procured for him a degree of Doctor of Laws from the University of Glasgow.

Estlin attended the committee frequently and donated several books to the library. From 1790, he published many works, chiefly in unitarian theology and religious controversy: *The Causes of the Inefficacy of Public Instruction Considered* (1790), *Evidences of Revealed Religion, and Particularly Christianity, stated with reference to the Pamphlet Age of Reason* (1796),[111] *The Nature and Causes of Atheism* (1797), *An Apology for the Sabbath* (1801), *The Union of Wisdom and Integrity Recommended* (1801), *Sermons Designed Chiefly as a Preservative from Infidelity and Religious Indifference* (1802), *Discourses on Universal Restitution* (1813), *The General Prayer Book* (1814), *General Instructions in the Doctrine and Duties of Religion* (1815), *A Unitarian Christian's Statement and Defence of this Principles* (1815), and *A Sermon on Persecution* (1816). He also prepared two volumes of *Familiar Lectures on Moral Philosophy,* based on his teaching, which were published posthumously in 1818. Estlin's obituary summarised his character and religious views:

> Dr. Estlin's religious opinions were what is called Unitarian, though, with his usual candour, he thought it wrong to restrict that term to those who hold the simple humanity of Christ. He always invited discussion, and though in the confidence of a sanguine disposition (perhaps the best disposition for happiness) he made no doubt of the prevalence of the opinions he held, and that in a very short time over the whole Christian world, and the consequent overthrow of all error, he always shewed the utmost candour to those of a different persuasion the fervour of his religious feelings never led him to bigotry, nor his liberality to scepticism.[112]

With such an attitude, it is not surprising that Estlin seemed to work well with so many Anglicans on the committee. Estlin used the library to borrow religious books such as John Jortin's *Remarks on Ecclesiastical History* (1751), John Leland's *The Advantage and Necessity of the Christian Revelation* (1764), and the Scottish Enlightenment moral philosophy of Francis Hutcheson, but he was also interested in the popular historical works of George Lyttelton and the travel literature of John Hawkesworth and Patrick Brydone, and reformist political literature in the shape of James Burgh's *Political Disquisitions* (3 vols., 1774).

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[109] Richard Champion, *Comparative Reflections on the Past and Present Political, Commercial, and Civil State of Great Britain* (London, 1787), 17, 53.

[110] For a biographical sketch written by his friend Anna Barbauld, see *Monthly Repository,* XII (1817), pp. 573–5.

[111] *The Age of Reason* (1794) was one of few works by Thomas Paine held by the library. It was ordered in October 1796. Though his *Trial* by Gurney was held, the library did not hold the *Rights of Man*.

[112] *Monthly Repository,* XII, p. 574.

The most famous religious dissenter in Bristol in the final decades of the eighteenth century was undoubtedly the Baptist minister Caleb Evans (1737–91), who was a regular member of the library. Evans succeeded his father as principal of the Bristol Baptist Academy in 1781, and he was also leader of the Broadmead Chapel.[113] His influence spread across the Atlantic, with a former Bristol student, William Staughton, using his model as the basis for the Columbian College (founded in 1821), now George Washington University. Evans received two honorary doctorates, from Rhode Island College (1789) and King's College, Aberdeen (1790). He published sermons and works on religion and politics, including *British Constitutional Liberty* (1775) and *British Freedom Realized* (1788). His Lockean libertarianism was directed against the Methodist John Wesley, who was a highly influential figure in Bristol on the Tory side (his brother Charles lived there for twenty years).[114] Interestingly the library did not own any of either Evans's or Wesley's works, apart from an edition of Wesley's *Original Letters* (1791), edited by Priestley. Members of the Library Society were divided on the American question in the 1770s, with Champion and other Whigs supporting Burke and the Rockingham Whig position of reconciliation, while the Steadfast Society sponsored the re-distribution of Wesley's anti-American pamphlet *A Calm Address to Our American Colonies* (1774) in 1780.[115] Out of the eight members who were present at the meeting of the Steadfast Society when this decision was taken, five were members of the Library Society, and one was a committee member (Rev. John Camplin). Staying clear of both Evans's and Wesley's works might have been a compromise between Whigs and Tories in the Library Society, and a reflection of the fact that a majority of the committee needed to approve all purchases of books.

Members of the Library Society were active in the debate about slavery and its abolition in the last decades of the eighteenth century. Some slave traders were prominent members of the library, but the number of those merchants who were indirectly involved was much greater. Thomas Daniel Junior, born in Barbados, had a stake in several slave plantations and applied for compensation in 1834. The fortunes of the Ames and Elton families, both represented in the library's membership, were firmly rooted in the slave trade. The main sugar importers in Bristol were either library members or related to library members: Protheroe & Claxton, Evan Baillie, William Miles, John Fisher Weare, Tobin & Pinney, Samuel Munckley, and Lowbridge & Richard Bright. The Brights in particular were very heavily involved in the Library Society. Both cousins sat on the committee (Richard from 1774 onwards, Lowbridge only as part of the committee controversially elected in 1799), while as noted above their firm leased out the lower part of the library annex as a counting house. When a major bequest of books and fossils was left to the Library Society by former committee member and former Bristol Infirmary physician Arthur Broughton in 1796, Richard undertook to transport the collection back to Bristol from Broughton's home in Kingston, Jamaica. In return, he was presented with the library's duplicate copy of Edward Long's *History of Jamaica*, a now-notorious book by a former planter which advanced racist views and mounted a spirited defence of chattel slavery.[116]

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[113] Roger Hayden, 'Able and Evangelical Ministers: The Beginnings of Ministerial Formation at Bristol Baptist College', *The Baptist Quarterly,* 47 (2016), pp. 110–19.

[114] Jonathan Barry, 'Charles Wesley's Family and the Musical Life of Bristol', in *Music and the Wesleys*, ed. S. Banfield and N. Temperley (Urbana, IL, 2010), pp. 141–153.

[115] BA: 8/2/132, Society of Merchant Venturers.

[116] *ODNB*.

The Library Society did not evade slavery as a topic. Among the early prominent members, those with Quaker backgrounds were against the slave trade in principle. Although there is evidence suggesting that Champion at least implicitly accepted the slave trade in private, and as a merchant he is likely to have been indirectly implicated in the trade, he condemned the institution of slavery in his political writings.[117] His Quaker friend Joseph Harford became chairperson of the abolitionist committee in Bristol, and was present at the committee meetings which ordered *An Abstract of the Evidence Delivered Before a Select Committee of the House of Commons 1790 & 1791 on the Part of the Petitioners for the Abolition of the Slave Trade*, in November 1791, and *Report of the Lords of the Committee of Council on the Slave Trade with a Map*, in March 1792. In June 1792, the library ordered Thomas Clarkson's *Essay on the Impolicy of the African Slave Trade* (1788), in which Bristol's major share in the trade was highlighted.[118]

The sugar planter James Tobin, who served on the committee of the library from 1791, was one of the most active campaigners against abolition of the slave trade, both locally and nationally. Tobin was in partnership with John Pinney (1740–1818), another library member. Tobin and Pinney were part of the Bristol West India Association, and helped construct its petitions against abolition from 1788–9 until its success in 1792.[119] Tobin wrote several pamphlets against abolition, starting with *Cursory Remarks upon the Reverend Mr. Ramsay's Essay on the Treatment and Conversion of African Slaves in the Sugar Solonies. By a Friend to the West India Colonies, and Their Inhabitants* (1785). Tobin attacked the Rev. James Ramsay's famous abolitionist tract for seeking to build the case for abolition by 'loading with contempt and infamy a very useful and respectable body of men', referring to West Indian planters and merchants.[120] It was a page-by-page refutation of Ramsay's arguments and observations, and Tobin especially focused on Ramsay's harsh treatment of English planters by comparison with the French, who had recently passed its *Code Noir,* defining the practice of slavery in the French Empire. The thrust of Tobin's case was that slaves in the English colonies were treated much better than Ramsay had assumed, and sometimes had better living conditions than Scottish Highlanders and 'the Irish bog-trotters'.[121] The abolitionist Ramsay replied to Tobin's pamphlet, which he regarded as full of 'personal invectives', and Tobin wrote two

[117] Champion to Portland, 22 Oct. 1778, University of Nottingham, PwF 2720; Champion to Caleb and John Lloyd, 16 Jul. 1770, in G.H. Guttridge (ed.), *The American Correspondence of a Bristol Merchant, 1766–1776: Letters of Richard Champion* (Berkeley, CA, 1934), p. 21; Champion, *Comparative Reflections,* p. 243.

[118] Madge Dresser, *Slavery Obscured: The Social History of the Slave Trade in an English Provincial Port* (London, 2001); Kenneth Morgan, *Bristol and the Atlantic Trade in the Eighteenth Century* (Cambridge, 1993), p. 151.

[119] Peter Buckles, 'The Abolition Movement in Bristol and the Sugar Trade during the French Revolutionary Wars' (Unpublished paper, 2019) and idem, *Crisis and Uncertainty in the Bristol-West India Sugar Trade, 1783–1802* (Liverpool, forthcoming).

[120] James Tobin, *Cursory Remarks upon the Reverend Mr. Ramsay's Essay on the Treatment and Conversion of African Slaves* (London, 1785), p. 2

[121] Ibid, p. 65.

further pamphlets in opposition to Ramsay.[122] These pamphlets were undoubtedly included among the library's holdings under the heading 'Tobin's Tracts, 1785–94, 8vo', donated by the author in November 1797. None of Ramsay's pamphlets appear to have been held by the Library Society.

As already indicated, however, the library held plenty of abolitionist literature. In April 1788, the committee ordered Hannah More's *Slavery* and Ann Yearsley's *Poem on the Inhumanity of the Slave Trade*. Both More and Yearsley were based in Bristol, though they were not members of the library. The library also held a copy of the library member Francis Randolph's *Letter to the Right Hon. Pitt on the Slave Trade* (1788). In opposition to Tobin, Randolph wrote that Britain, as 'an *enlightened* and a *Christian* Nation', had no right 'to exercise this inhuman Branch of Traffic'. In a Christian-utilitarian argument, Randolph argued that their prosperity meant that the British had a duty to 'increase the general Sum of human Happiness'. Many of the anti-abolitionists argued that enslaved people were better off in their new habitat than in Africa. According to Randolph, even if this had been true, this could not justify the purchase of human beings. Drawing on his reading of Montesquieu – a popular author at the library – Randolph argued that human nature can *vary* but not *differ*.[123] All human beings had the same mental potential and the same capacity for virtue. As he wrote: 'if we were forced to seek for the Virtues or the Dignity of the human Race onboard an African Trader, it would be amidst those who were groaning under their Misery; not among those whose Vice and Brutality could inflict it.'[124] This was reminiscent of a passage in Adam Smith's *The Theory of Moral Sentiments* (1759), one of the library's early acquisitions.[125] Randolph stopped short of calling for the immediate abolition of the slave trade. Instead, he wanted to see it phased out, a gradualist approach he shared with Burke, who had also argued for the termination of the slave trade in *Sketch of the Negro Code,* originally drafted in 1780.

Randolph was a clergyman and a former fellow of King's College, Cambridge. He also wrote *Scriptural Revision of Socinian Arguments, in a Letter to the Rev. Dr. Priestley* (1792), – with a revised version published the following year in opposition to Benjamin Hobhouse's *Reply* – and a collection of *Sermons Preached at Laura-Chapel, Bath* (1800), which he donated to the library. Anglican theological works were also authored by other clergy members of the library, including the Rev. Thomas Biddulph, who donated his *Essays on Some Select Parts of the Liturgy of the Church of England* (1798), published in Bristol, to the Library Society. The Rev. Richard King, who became a member of the committee in 1800, wrote several theological works in the nineteenth century, including *A Discourse on the Inspiration of the Scriptures* (1805), *Remarks on the Alliance Between Church and State, and on the*

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[122] *A Reply to the Personal Invectives and Objections Contained in Two Answers, Published by Certain Anonymous Persons, to An Essay on the Treatment and Conversion of African Slaves, in the British colonies, by James Ramsay, M. A. Vicar of Teston* (London, 1785); *A Short Rejoinder to the Reverend Mr. Ramsay's Reply: With a Word or Two on Some Other Publications of the Same Tendency. By James Tobin, Esq. Late Member of His Majesty's Council in the Island of Nevis* (London, 1787); *A Farewel Address to the Rev. Mr. James Ramsay: from James Tobin, Esq. To which is Added a Letter from the Society for Propagating the Gospel, to Mr. Anthony Benezel of Philadelphia: and also a Translation of the French King's Declaration Relating to the Situation of Negroes, &c. in his European Dominions* (London, 1788).

[123] Montesquieu's *Spirit of the Laws* was borrowed 15 times between 1773 and 1784; Kaufman, *Borrowings from the Bristol Library*, p. 61.

[124] Francis Randolph, *Letter to the Right Hon. Pitt on the Slave Trade* (London, 1788), pp. 13, 16, 19.

[125] Adam Smith, *The Theory of Moral Sentiments* (London, 1759), p. 402. This work was borrowed four times between 1773 and 1784; Kaufman, *Borrowings from the Bristol Library*, p. 70.

Test Laws (1807), and *Brother Abraham's Answer to Peter Plymley in Two Letters; to which is Prefixed a 'Postliminious' Preface* (1808).

Samuel Coleridge and Robert Southey were the two most famous authors among the library's members, and their borrowing records attracted scholars to the Library Society well before its wider cultural value started to be recognised.[126] The committee minutes record that Southey acquired his share in the Library Society via the gentleman John Cooke Sr, who transferred his share to Southey in March 1794. Two years later, Southey transferred his share to his publisher and bookseller Joseph Cottle (1770–1853), who was also an author and donated several of his works to the library, including *Malvern Hills: A Poem* (1798) and *Alfred, an Epic Poem* (1801). The library ordered many of Southey's eighteenth-century works, including *Joan of Arc, an Epic Poem* (1796), *Poems* (1797), and *Letters Written During a Short Residence in Spain and Portugal* (1797), all of which were first published in Bristol by Cottle, and all of which turned out to be popular loans at the library in the late 1790s. Coleridge acquired his share in the library when Robert Lovell Jr – author of *Bristol: A Satire* – transferred his share to Coleridge in March 1795. In May 1796, Coleridge donated his *Poems on Various Subjects* (1796) to the library.

Finally, the offspring of two prominent library members became giants of nineteenth century literature. John Hallam, the Dean of Bristol Cathedral, who served on the library committee for twenty years and frequently attended its meetings, was the father of the historian Henry Hallam (1777–1859), whose major works included *View of the State of Europe during the Middle Ages* (1818), *The Constitutional History of England* (1827), and *Introduction to the Literature of Europe, in the Fifteenth, Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries* (1837). The Rev. William Milton, who served the committee from 1778, fathered Frances 'Fanny' Milton Trollope (1779–1863), who wrote the famous travel book *Domestic Manners of the Americans* (2 vols., 1832), along with a series of widely read social novels, one of them on slavery. Since both Hallam and Milton used the library frequently as their children were growing up, future intellectual historians and literary scholars may want to investigate whether the Library Society played a role in the intellectual formation of Henry Hallam and Frances Milton Trollope.

Epilogue

Though the Library House had originally been built for the free use of the citizens, the Library Society that took over the premises was an exclusive membership library. Indeed, the librarian Johnes is said to have treated the entrance of a non-subscriber into the building as an 'impertinent intrusion'.[127] In the nineteenth century, the library came under attack for its exclusive character. The biggest flaw of the library, according to the bookseller John Fry (1792–1822), writing under the pseudonym 'Bibliophile' in the *Bristol Memorialist* (1823), was the exclusion of non-proprietary

[126] George Whalley, 'The Bristol Library Borrowings of Southey and Coleridge, 1793–8', *The Library*, s5, IV (1949), pp. 114–132; Paul Kaufman, 'The Reading of Southey and Coleridge: The Record of their Borrowings from the Bristol Library, 1793–8', *Modern Philology,* 21 (1923–4), pp. 317–20. The literature on Coleridge's and Southey's links with Bristol's cultural life in the 1790s is vast. Duncan Wu points out that Wordsworth was a part of Coleridge's literary circle in Bristol, and speculates that he may also have had access to the library's books through Coleridge, Cottle and Azariah Pinney; *Wordsworth's Reading, 1770–1799* (Cambridge, 1994), p. 176.

[127] Latimer, *Annals of Bristol,* p. 403.

members.[128] Fry proposed the admission of annual subscribers who would 'be permitted to share in the perusal but not in the property of the books' for the lower fee of one guinea rather than eight guineas as an admission fee and one and a half guineas per year. However, even that would only be 'a partial improvement', and a free, public library would be even better, Fry argued. He referred to Manchester, where Humphrey Chetham founded what is sometimes considered to be the first 'public library' in 1653, although of course it was not a public library in the modern, state-funded sense, and was mainly intended for scholars rather than the general public.[129] However, Fry reflected increasing recognition by the 1820s of the need to provide library facilities for those who could not afford the fees of subscription libraries, including the famous mechanics institutes.[130]

The Library Society was forcefully defended against this criticism by the printer and editor John Evans (1774–1828). He pointed out that the Library Society had revolutionised access to new books in the city, with the Old Library hardly the most utilitarian affair, consisting mainly of books in Latin and published before 1628. It was also ludicrous to think of the library as an exclusive institution, according to Evans:

> Whatever may be thought of the mental restraints imposed upon the 'free burgesses' by the constitution of the Bristol Library-Society, we have never heard of any obstruction to a gentlemanly application for access to the books, the property of the Corporation, even on the part of those of the citizens who are *not* free burgesses. Very many 'free burgesses' are to be found among the holders of purchases shares, who are, besides, annual subscribers.[131]

The Library Society certainly played a great role in enlarging the notions and cultivating the understanding of the middling sort of eighteenth-century Bristol. When Burke said in his *Speech on Fox's East India Bill,* delivered in December 1783, that he had 'known merchants with the sentiments and the abilities of great statesmen', it is likely that he had library members such as Champion, – who served him as his deputy at the time – Harford, and Joseph Smith in mind.[132] Burke once said of Harford: 'You could not have a better man than Mr Harford. He has a great bottom for confidence. He has a firm Integrity; very enlarged notions; and one of the most solid and well cultivated understandings I have met with'.[133] This is high praise from one of the century's intellectual and political virtuosos.

In 1808, the Library Society had yet again run out of space, and formed with the Philosophical and Literary Society an undertaking to erect a building for their common use. Before the building was finished, however, the Library Society withdrew from

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[128] For the identification of Fry, see Evans, *Chronological Outline*, p. 290.

[129] *The Bristol Memorialist*, p. 210.

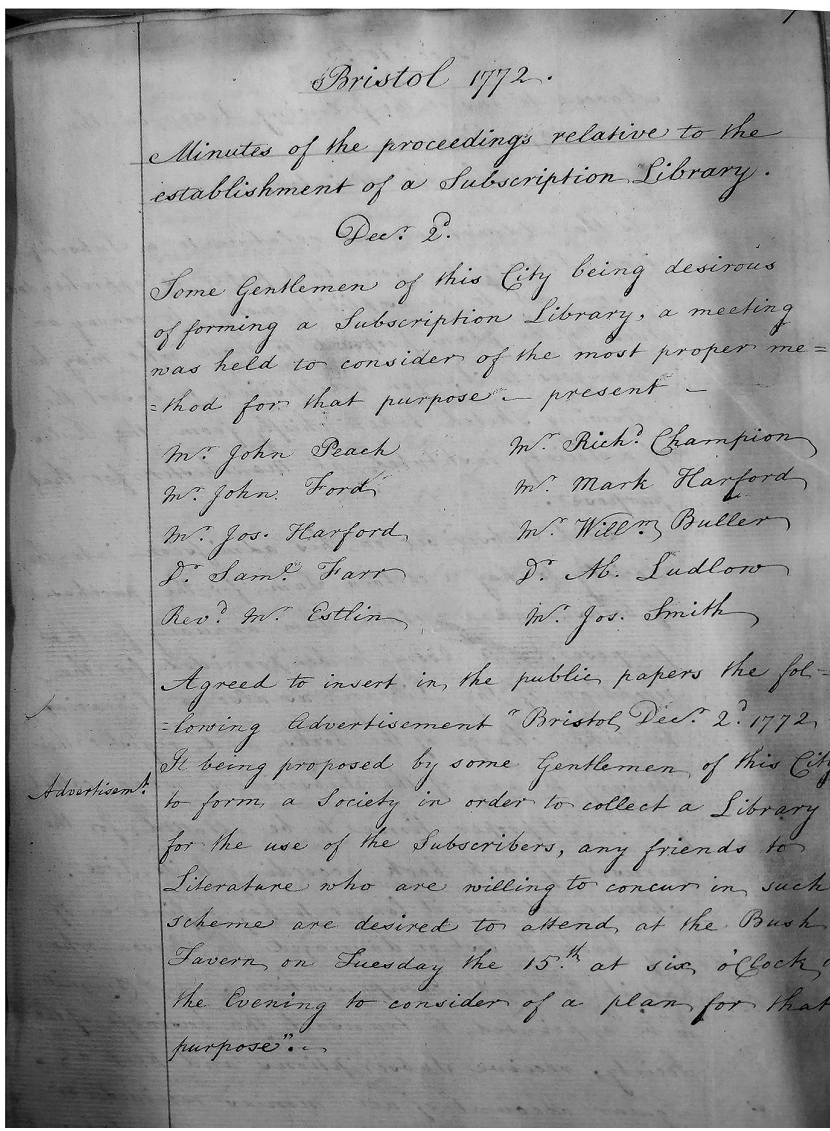
[130] Mark Towsey and Kyle B. Roberts (eds.), *Before the Public Library: Reading, Community, and Identity in the Atlantic World, 1650–1850* (Leiden: Brill, 2017), pp. 4–5; Allan, *Nation of Readers*, pp. 194–5. For working-class reading in the early decades of the nineteenth century, see David Vincent, *Bread, Knowledge and Freedom: A Study of Nineteenth-Century Working Class Autobiography* (London, 1981); Jonathan Rose, *The Intellectual Life of the British Working Classes* (New Haven, CT, 2001); Jonathan Rose, 'Rereading the English Common Reader: A Preface to a History of Audiences', *Journal of the History of Ideas*, no. 53 (1992), pp. 47–70.

[131] Evans, *Chronological Outline,* p. 291.

[132] *The Writings and Speeches of Edmund Burke,* ed. Paul Langford et. al. (9 vols., Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1970–2015), V, p. 387.

[133] Cited in Underdown, 'Burke's Bristol friends', p. 137.

the project, allegedly because it felt its independence threatened. In 1867, the idea of amalgamating the Library Society and Philosophical and Literary Society was raised again, and this time successfully, as the two societies merged in 1871, becoming the Bristol Museum and Library. In 1893, under the Museums and Gymnasiums Act, the Bristol Museum and Library ceased to be a private organisation and it was transferred to the authority of the City and County of Bristol. The library was finally incorporated into Bristol's public library system in 1905. Printed books from the eighteenth-century collections, together with the Library Society's manuscript borrowing registers, still belong to the Bristol Central Library.



Bristol 1772.

Minutes of the proceedings relative to the establishment of a Subscription Library.

Decr. 2.

Some Gentlemen of this City being desirous of forming a Subscription Library, a meeting was held to consider of the most proper me=thod for that purpose — present —

Mr. John Peach
Mr. John Ford
Mr. Jos. Harford
Dr. Samd. Farr
Revd. Mr. Estlin
Mr. Richd. Champion
Mr. Mark Harford
Mr. Willm. Buller
Dr. Ab. Ludlow
Mr. Jos. Smith

Agreed to insert in the public papers the fol=lowing Advertisement "Bristol Decr. 2d. 1772. — It being proposed by some Gentlemen of this City to form a Society in order to collect a Library for the use of the Subscribers, any friends to Literature who are willing to concur in such a scheme are desired to attend, at the Bush Tavern on Tuesday the 15th at six o'Clock in the Evening to consider of a plan for that purpose". —

Advertisemt.

First page of the Minute Book, recording the meeting held on 2 December 1772 agreeing to advertise for a new 'Library for the use of the subscribers'. Bristol Archives, MS 32079 (153).

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE BRISTOL LIBRARY SOCIETY

[153-1r] **Bristol 1772**
Minutes of the proceedings relative to the establishment of a Subscription Library, 2 December 1772

Some Gentlemen of this City being desirous of forming a Subscription Library, a meeting was held to consider of the most proper method for that purpose.

Present: Mr. John Peach,[1] Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Mark Harford, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. William Buller, Dr. Samuel Farr, Dr. Abraham Ludlow,[2] Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Joseph Smith.

^Advertisement^
Agreed to insert in the public papers[3] the following advertisement 'Bristol, Decr. 2d. 1772 – It being proposed by some Gentlemen of this City to form a Society in order to collect a Library for the use of the Subscribers, any friends to Literature who are willing to concur in such a scheme are desired to attend, at the Bush Tavern,[4] on Tuesday 15th at six o'clock in the evening to consider of a plan for that purpose.'

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[1] Biographical footnotes will not be given for committee members, for whom see appendix 1.

[2] Dr. Abraham Ludlow (1737–1807), elected as physician at the Bristol Royal Infirmary in 1767. Son of the surgeon Abraham Ludlow.

[3] More newspapers were printed in Bristol in the eighteenth century than in any other English provincial city. The Farley family, which was divided along religious and political lines, was the leading newspaper family. The principal newspapers in Bristol at this time were *Felix Farley's Bristol Journal,* which began in 1752 and was edited by Felix's widow Elizabeth until 1767, and by Thomas Cocking until her death in 1779. *Felix Farley's Bristol Journal* competed with the *Bristol Journal,* which was edited by a rival side of the Farley family, and Sarah Farley until her death in 1774. Interestingly, the journal was renamed *Sarah Farley's Bristol Journal* in 1777, when it was ran by George and William Routh. If *Felix Farley's Bristol Journal* represented Tory Bristol, the *Bristol Journal* represented the Whigs and the Common Council. These and other newspapers, including the Methodist *Bristol Gazette,* were available in Bristol's many coffee houses, where they were sometimes read aloud. See Jonathan Barry, 'The Press and the Politics of Culture in Bristol, 1660–1775', in *Culture, Politics and Society in Britain 1660–1800*, ed. Jeremy Black and Jeremy Gregory (Manchester, 1991), pp. 49–81; Jonathan Barry, *Methodism and the Press in Bristol 1737–1775* (Wesley Historical Society, Bristol Branch, 1992).

[4] Bristol's leading coaching inn in the last quarter of the eighteenth century, the Bush Tavern sat opposite the Corn Exchange on Corn Street in Bristol. Its earliest known licensee was John Weeks in 1775, and the tavern was demolished in 1854.

[1v] Agreed to insert the following letter in the Saturday's paper.[5]

^Letter^
To the Printer.
As the Advertisement relative to a Subscription Library in your last paper is apprehended by some not to be explicit enough to convey an idea of the plan proposed to those who may be strangers to it, you are desired to insert the following sketch taken chiefly from the rules of a Society instituted at Manchester for that purpose.[6]

Each Subscriber on his admission into the Society to pay a certain sum for the purchase of books, and a certain sum annually for that purpose, – a Room, to be provided for the reception of the Library, as also a Librarian to take charge of the books and register their delivery to any of the Subscribers when called for. A proper time to be allotted for the perusal of each book according to its size, whoever detains it longer to pay a fine – If any book be lost or damaged the Person who had it to make compensation, – A Committee to be appointed to transact the business of the Society, receive Subscriptions and keep a regular account of all monies received or paid, for the use of the Society – Any Subscriber to propose what books he may think proper by sending a list to the Librarian before the Committee at their usual meetings who shall order such as are approved of by [2r] the majority.

These are the general outlines of a plan which has been adopted at Manchester, Liverpool[7] and some other places for some years past and continues to meet with approbation and encouragement – The utility of such a method is sufficiently obvious – It is hoped that the Clergy and others who are conversant in Literature may approve of this undertaking and favour it with their attendance at the time and place appointed in the advertisement where further particulars may be discussed and determined.

15 December 1772
Several Gentlemen being met in consequence of the preceding publication the following agreed to form a Society for that purpose.
Rev. Dr. Casberd, John Merlott Esq., Mr. John Ford, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. William Barrett, Rev. Mr. Love, Dr. James Plomer, Mr. Paul Farr,[8] George Daubeny Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Dr. Samuel Farr, Mr. William Dyer, Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. John Garnett, Mr. Joseph Champion, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr. William Buller, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Mark Harford, Dr. Abraham Ludlow, Mr. John

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[5] This refers to the *Bristol Journal*. All of Bristol's newspapers were published on Saturdays, apart from the *Bristol Gazette,* which appeared on Thursdays.

[6] For the rules and regulation, see Manchester Circulating Library, *A Catalogue of the Present Collection of Books in the Manchester Circulating Library; A copy of the Laws; and a List of the Subscribers* (Manchester 1794), pp. 73–80.

[7] The Liverpool Library is generally thought to be the earliest private subscription library in England, founded in 1758 by a group that met in the house in St Paul's Square of mathematician and schoolmaster William Everard. For its rules and regulation, see *A Catalogue of the Books Belonging to the Society of the Liverpool Library: To which are Prefixed, the Laws and Regulation, and a List of the Subscribers* (Liverpool, 1787), pp. iv–x.

[8] Paul Farr (d. 1794), Presbyterian merchant, from a well-known commercial family in Bristol, many of whom were members of the library committee. A Whig and a political friend of Burke and leading Whigs in Bristol, including Richard Champion, Joseph Smith and Joseph Harford.

Deverell, Dr. William Moncrieffe,[9] Mr. John Madox,[10] Mr. Edward Bridges,[11] Mr. Mark Davis.[12]

[2v] ^ Entrance money^
Agreed 1st. That each person becoming a member at the Institution of the Society pay one Guinea Entrance.

^Annual payment^
Agreed 2d. That each member pay an annual Subscription of one Guinea to commence on 25th day of March next ensuing.

^Committee^
Agreed 3d. That a committee of Twelve Persons be elected from amongst the present Subscribers to transact the business of the Society.

^Chairman & Secretary^
Agreed 4th. That the Rev. Dr. Casberd be Chairman, and Mr. William Buller Secretary of the Committee, and that the other ten members be chosen, by a marked list, such to undertake that office whose names shall be marked by the majority.

^Committee-men^
5. The following Persons were chosen for Committee men, agreeably to the direction of the preceding minute:
Mr. John Ford, Mr. William Barrett, Mr. Joseph Harford, George Daubeny Esq., Dr. Samuel Farr, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. John Deverell, John Merlott, Esq., Rev. Mr. Love.

^Plan of Rules^
6. Agreed – That the Committee form a Plan for the regulation of the Society and bring to the next General meeting for their consideration, a meeting to be summoned for that purpose as soon as the plan is prepared.

[3r] ^Advertisement^
7. The Committee is desired to insert an Advertisement in the public papers specifying the Terms of admission, and appointing proper places for the receiving of Subscriptions.

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[9] Dr. William Moncrieffe (1745–1816), born in Perthshire in 1745 and graduated from Edinburgh 1766. Went to Bristol in August 1772. First elected to St Peter's Hospital. Elected to the Bristol Royal Infirmary on 18 July 1775 following the resignation of Dr. John Paul (d. 1815). Held the post for forty-one years. Member of many societies in Bristol, including the Half-Pint Club, the Dolphin Society, and the St Andrew's Society.

[10] John Madox (alternatively Maddox or Madocks) was a sugar baker, and a frequent user of the library. Voted in Gloucestershire's county election in 1776 as a landowner in his own right rather than as a tenant; see *Gloucestershire Poll Book 1776*, p. 129.

[11] Edward Bridges (d. 1775), apothecary and successor to Joseph Shapland at the Bristol Royal Infirmary in 1752.

[12] Mark Davies (or Davis), Jr and later Esq., West India merchant. In 1831, he lived in a large estate near Sherborne, Dorsetshire. A subscriber to the first edition of Mary Deverell, *Sermons on the Following Subjects* (London, 1774), sold by Thomas Cadell at Bristol.

^Memorial^
8. The Committee is desired to prepare a memorial to the Corporation[13] requesting the use of the Library-house in King Street and of the books therein deposited, and bring to the next general meeting for their consideration.[14]

^President^
9. Agreed – That the choice of a President of this Society be deferred to the next or some future general meeting.

^Addition to the Committee^
10. Agreed – That eight members more be added to the Committee at the next or some future general meeting, who with the President when chosen shall with the former Committee remain in that office for the succeeding year.

[3v] **At a general meeting of the Library Society, 11 January 1773**
1. The Committee brought in a Plan for the regulation of the Society which being considered was, with some alteration, agreed to, and is as follows,

Rules of the Society

^Title^
1. That the Society be called the Bristol Library Society.

^Entrance Money^
2. That each person becoming a member at the Institution of the Society pay one guinea Entrance, but that after expiration of the first year the Entrance money be encreased as the general meeting shall direct.

^Annual Payment^
3. That each Member pay an annual Subscription of one guinea to commence on the 25th day of March next ensuing.

^Members for Life^
4. That any Person paying Fifteen guineas or upwards at once shall be a member for Life.

^Transfer^
5. That a member of this Society may transfer or bequeath his Share of Property in the Library to any other person who will consent to be governed by the rules of the Society.

[4r] ^General Meeting^
6. That a general meeting of the Society be held on the first Monday of February in each year to inspect the affairs of the Society to elect a President, Vice President, Treasurer, and eighteen other members who shall form a committee for the ensuing year.

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[13] The official title of the municipal corporation was 'the Mayor, Burgesses and Commonalty of the City of Bristol'. Most contemporary references to the 'corporation' refers to its governing body, the Common Council, which comprised the mayor, twelve alderman, and thirty common councillors, of whom two newcomers were usually sheriffs.
[14] See introduction for details.

^Committee^
7. That the Committee, six of whom when met at the appointed Time and Place shall be a Quorum, meet once a fortnight to consider the Books proposed by any members of the Society and to order such as the majority shall approve to transact the business of the Society and report the state thereof to the next annual meeting. If on any Question there be an equal Division, the President or in his absence the Vice President shall have a casting Vote, if both are absent the Question on an equal division to be determined in the negative.

^Extraordinary general meeting^
8. That any Twelve members of the Society shall have power to call an extraordinary general meeting, giving Ten Days notice and expressing the business to be proposed.

^Treasurer^
9. That the Treasurer keep a regular account of all monies received and paid for the use of the Society, subject to the Inspection of the Committee.

[4v] ^Librarian^
10. That the Librarian have such a gratuity as each annual meeting may direct for the succeeding year, – that he form and keep a Catalogue of the Books, take due care of them, register their delivery and return, and inform that Committee of any loss or damage which may happen, – That he collect the Subscriptions and pay the same to the Treasurer, that he transcribe the minutes of the Society into a fair book. That he attend at the Library from Ten in the morning till one on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from six in the Evening till nine on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays.

^Books proposed^
11. That a Book be kept at the Library in which shall be entered the Titles of such books as any member may recommend.

^Perusal of Books^
12. That on the Inside of the cover of each book a Ticket be fixed expressing how long each member may keep it, and a fine for exceeding that time. If more than one member apply for the same book at the same time, the preference to be determined by Lot. The names of such as apply for a book that is engaged to be noted down, that they may have it when returned, – Each member to give a receipt for the book taken away.

[5r] ^Loss or damage^
13. That if any member lose or damage a Book he shall make such a compensation as the Committee shall direct, if the book lost or damaged be part of a set, he shall take the remainder and purchase a new set for the Library.

^Arrears neglected^
14. That if a member neglect to make his annual payment within one month after the time appointed, proper application having been made to him, he shall have no book delivered from the Library until the same be paid, and if any member remain six months in arrears he shall no longer be considered as a member of the Society.

^Subscription^
15. That each member on his admission into the Society subscribe the rules in a book prepared for that purpose, when he shall have a Catalogue of the books with the rules annexed.

^Memorial^
2d. The Committee bro[ugh]t in a memorial to the Corporation requesting the use of the Library-house and of the books therein deposited, which being read and approved of, the Committee are desired to sign the same on behalf of the Society and to appoint a deputation to present it to the Corporation, and report their answer to a General-Meeting.

[5v] **Copy of the Memorial**
To the Right worshipful the Mayor, the worshipful the Aldermen, Sheriffs and Common-Council of the City of Bristol.[15]

A considerable number of Gentlemen having formed themselves into a Society to establish a Library in this city, We the Committee beg leave in their names to submit the Plan to the Mayor, Aldermen and the rest of the Corporation, persuaded that an attempt to promote Literature requires only to be mentioned in order to recommend itself to the patronage and support of the magistracy. On this occasion we hope there is no impropriety in requesting the use of the Library-house and of the books therein deposited, at present uselessly deposited for want of that superintendence a public-Library stands in need of, and which can only be secured by literary establishment.

The advantage of every civilized country derives from Literature give it a right to universal protection and encouragement, but it has a more peculiar claim on places of commerce, as the great perfection to which many of our manufacturers and works of mechanism are arrived, must be ascribed to scientific principles on which they were founded. To put it in the power of the Citizens of Bristol to have access to a well chosen Library at an easy annual expence is the object of the Society.

[6] To effect this they have adopted a plan which has already succeeded in other parts of the nation, flattering themselves it will have the Influence of that respectable patronage we now solicit to promote its success in this City.

^President^
3. This meeting agrees to request the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Bristol[16] to be the President of this Society, and appoint the Rev. Dr. Casberd and Rev. Mr. John Camplin to transmit a Copy of the Rules to his Lordship with their request and report his answer to the next General Meeting.

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[15] I.e., the governing body of the corporation. Mayors and sheriffs in Bristol were selected annually by the governing body, whereas aldermen and common councillors enjoyed life tenure. The merchant Robert Gordon was mayor and Andrew Pope and Thomas Pierce were sheriffs in 1773. For a full list of the office holders and the common councillors in 1774, see *Poll Book 1774*, pp. i–ii.

[16] Thomas Newton (1704–82) had been appointed Bishop of Bristol in 1761, serving until his death in office. For the period covered by this volume, his successors in the post were Lewis Bagot (1740–1802), who was translated to Norwich in 1783; Christopher Wilson, who died in office in 1792; Spencer Madan (1729–1813), who was translated to Peterborough in 1794; Reginald Courtenay (1741–1803), who was translated to Exeter in 1797; and Folliott Cornewall (1754–1831), who was translated to Hereford in 1802. They all served in the largely symbolic office of president of the library society.

^Vice-President^
4. This meeting appoints the Rev. Dr. Casberd to be the Vice-President of this Society.

^Treasurer^
5. This meeting appoints Mr. William Buller to be Treasurer of this Society.

^Committee^
6. The following Eight Members being chosen by Ballot are added to the Committee: Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Dr. Plomer, Mr. John Peach, Thomas Farr Esq., Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Mr. Mark Harford, Mr. Thomas Eagles.

7. The Committee is desired to transmit a Copy of the Rules to each of our Representatives.

[6v] **At a General Meeting, 8 February 1773**

^The Bishop's Letter^
1. The Vice-President brought in a Letter from the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Bristol expressing his Lordship's approbation of the design of this Society and his acceptance of the office of President, as also his intention of subscribing Ten Guineas Entrance Money and Two Guineas annually. The V.P. having also read the answers returned by the Committee on behalf of the Society, this meeting approves the same.

^Representatives Letters^
2. The Vice President brought in a Letter from each of our Representatives expressing their Intention of being Members of this Society.

^Memorial^
3. The Committee have not yet delivered the Memorial to the Corporation, they not having been assembled since it was prepared.

^Librarian elected^
4. This meeting proceeded to the choice of a Librarian the applications from several Candidates for that office having been previously read, when on the Ballot the Rev. Thomas Johnes was elected by a large majority.

^Librarian's salary^
5. Agreed to defer fixing the salary of the Librarian to a future General Meeting.

[7r] **At a General Meeting, 7 February 1774**
1. Agreed that the Librarian have a gratuity of Twenty Guineas for the past year, and an allowance of Coals and Candles for the use of the House.

2. Agreed that the Entrance-money be advanced to Two Guineas after Lady Day next, but that any person who may give in their names in the Interim as Subscribers for the next year (commencing from that period) shall be admitted on the present terms. The Secretary is desired to insert this resolution in the public papers.

3. Agreed that any Person paying fifteen Guineas as any should be a Member for life, if he choose to add the Entrance-money, shall have an equal share of the property with an annual subscriber, which he may transfer or bequeath accordingly.

4. Agreed that if any person shall give to the Society Books which the Committee shall estimate to be worth Twenty Pounds, he shall be considered as a Member for Life; and if they amount to the additional value of the Entrance-money, he shall be entitled to all the privileges of an annual subscriber.

5. Agreed that an Insurance be made on the books belonging to the Society for such sum as the Committee may judge requisite.

6. Agreed that the Thanks of the Society be given to the Committee for the care and trouble they have taken in transacting the business for the past year.

7. Agreed that the President, V. President and Treasurer be desired to continue in their respective offices.

8. The surviving Members of the last year's committee were reelected, by a marked list, to whom was added Mr. Richard Bright in the room of the Rev. Mr. Love deceased.

[7v] **At a General Meeting, 6 February 1775**
1. Agreed that the Librarian have the same Gratuity as the preceding year with the like allowance of Coal and Candles.

2. The minutes of the Committee being read, this Meeting approves of their proceedings and returns the Thanks of the Society for their case and trouble.

3. Agreed that the Library be open on the usual mornings from Eleven to Two, instead of from Ten to One.

4. Agreed that a discretionary Power be vested in a Majority of the [whole] Committee, of retaining in the Library such scarce or valuable Books as they shall judge not proper to be sent out to the Subscribers.

5. The Vice President is desired to return the Thanks of the Society to Mr. Cater[17] for his Donation of Anstis's History of the Order of the Garter.

6. The surviving Members of the last year's Committee were reelected, by Ballot, to whom was added the Reverend Mr. Walker in the room of Mr. John Peach deceased.

[8r] **At a General Meeting, 5 February 1776**
1. Agreed that the Librarian have the same Gratuity as the preceding year with the like allowance of Coal and Candles.

[17] William Cater, bookseller in High Holborn, London, who was active between 1759 and 1787; *BBTI*.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be returned to Mr. Buller for this should be his great attention in the original Institution of this Society and for his late services as Treasurer; and that the Librarian be desired to acquaint him of the same.

3. Agreed that the General Meeting which hitherto has been held on the first Monday of February, in each year, be for the future holden [*sic*] on the Monday next preceding Lady Day, in each year.

4. Agreed that John Deverell Esq. be desired to take upon him the office of Treasurer of this Society.

5. The minutes of the Committee being read, this meeting approves of their proceedings and returns the Thanks of the Society for their care and trouble.

6. Sir Abraham Elton[18] having made this Society a present of Montfaucon's Antiquities, this Society return their thanks to Sir Abraham for his very valuable Donation.

[8v] 7. The meeting proceeded to the election of a Committee when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Mr. Richard Bright, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Mr. Richard Champion, George Daubeny Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Abraham Elton Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Thomas Farr Esq., Dr. Samuel Farr, Mr. John Ford, Mr. John Garnett, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Mark Harford, Jr, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Mr. Walker.

8. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be returned to Rowles Scudamore Esq.[19] for a Set of Rymer's Foedera that he has deposited in the Library for the use of the Society during the existence as a Society; afterwards to remain in the Library under the direction of the Guardians and Trustees to the City Library.

9. Agreed that a Catalogue of the Books belonging to the Society be printed in octavo, one side of each leaf to be left blank, the Donation to be marked with an asterism; and that the Rules of the Society with a list of the Subscribers be prefixed and that the same be printed by the twenty fifth of March next.[20]

[9r] **At a General Meeting, 24 March 1777**
1. Ordered that the committee be empowered to pay the Librarian a gratuity of Twenty Guineas for his last year's services, and a proportionable acknowledgment of half a quarter's stipend, viz from the 4th of February to the 25th of March instant: and that they have leave also to make the like Gratuity of Twenty Guineas for the ensuing year in such payments as they shall think proper.

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[18] Sir Abraham Elton (1717–90), attorney and town clerk of Bristol. From a political family whose fortune was rooted in the slave trade.
[19] Rowles Scudamore Esq. (1719–1785), from Gloucester. 'Esq.' indicates gentry status and land ownership.
[20] This catalogue has not been traced.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to the President, the Vice President and to the Committee for their care and trouble.

3. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to John Deverell Esq. for his great attention in the discharge of his office of Treasurer to the Society.

4. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Corporation of this City and to the Society of Merchants for the great expence they have been at in removing certain stables contiguous to the Library.[21]

5. This meeting agrees to request the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Bristol to continue to be the President of this Society, the Reverend Dr. Casberd to be the Vice President, and John Deverell Esq. to be the Treasurer.

[9v] 6. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Mr. Richard Bright, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Mr. Richard Champion, George Daubeny Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Abraham Elton Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Thomas Farr Esq., Dr. Samuel Farr, Mr. John Ford, Mr. John Garnett, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Mark Harford, Jr, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Mr. Walker.

[10r] **At a General Meeting, 23 March 1778**
1. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour he has done them in being their President; and that he be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Reverend Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as Vice President, and for his Address to this meeting concerning the present state of the Library; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to John Deverell Esq. for his care and attention in the discharge of his office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

4. The minutes of the committee being read; this meeting approves of their proceedings and returns them the Thanks of the Society for their care and trouble.

5. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Society of Merchants for their annual Donation of Ten Guineas.

[10v] 6. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

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[21] Many members of the library were part of the Society of Merchant Venturers. Samuel Span was master in 1777, and the role had previously been filled by three members of the Farr family, Samuel Munckley, William Jones and Andrew Pope. See introduction for more information about the Merchant Venturers.

7. This Meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Mr. Richard Champion, George Daubeny Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Abraham Elton Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Thomas Farr Esq., Dr. Samuel Farr, Mr. John Ford, Mr. John Garnett, Joseph Harford, Esq., Mr. Mark Harford, Jr, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Dr. James Plomer.

8. Agreed that the Committee be invested with a power to order and receive Plans of Edifices to be built on the void space of ground near the Library.

[11r] **At a General Meeting, 22 March 1779**
1. Agreed that, if an opportunity should offer to the committee for the time being of purchasing Books for the Library upon advantageous terms, any debt or deficiency, that may be thereby incurred, shall be made good by the next committee.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour he has done them in being their President; and that he be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Reverend Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as Vice-President; and that he be desired to continue Vice-President the ensuing year.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to John Deverell Esq. for his care and attention in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

5. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for their care and trouble.

[11v] 6. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

7. This Meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Mr. Richard Champion, George Daubeny Esq., Mr. William Dyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Abraham Elton Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Dr. Samuel Farr, F.R.S.,[22] Mr. John Ford, Mr. John Garnett, Joseph Harford, Esq., John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry.

[12r] **At a General Meeting, 14 March 1780**
1. The Vice President having reported that Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. William Dyer and Mr. Francis Ward have in the course of the last year presented very valuable Books to the Library; agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given them for the same.

[22] Fellow of the Royal Society.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour he has done them in being their President; and that he be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Reverend Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to John Deverell Esq. for his care and attention in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

5. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for their care and trouble they have taken in transacting the business for the past year.

6. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

7. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee when all the members appointed to that Office last year were reelected.

8. Agreed that the Committee be invested with a power to order and receive Plans of Edifices to be built on the void space of ground near the Library.

[12v] **At a General Meeting, 19 March 1781**
1. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour he has done them in being their President; and that he be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Reverend Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to John Deverell Esq. for his care and attention in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for their care and trouble they have taken in transacting the business of the past year.

5. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

6. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to Dr. [Samuel] Farr for the great attention he paid to the business of the Society by regularly attending the committees, and for using his Interest and Endeavours, on every occasion that offered, to promote the welfare of the Institution.

[13r] 7. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Richard Bright Esq., Reverend Mr. Camplin, Mr. Richard Champion, Rev. Mr. Collinson, George Daubeny Esq., Mr. William Dyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Abraham Elton Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. John Ford, Mr. John Garnett, Joseph Harford, Esq., John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry.

8. On the motion of Mr. Eagles, agreed that Mr. George Catcott (in consideration of the very ample Benefaction made to the Library by his Brother the late Reverend Mr. Alexander Catcott) be admitted an Honorary member of this Society.[23]

9. The present mode of electing a Committee having been objected to, agreed that in the summons to be issued out for the next General meeting – The Subscribers be desired to attend at six o'clock precisely, in order to consider if any more eligible mode of election can be adopted.

[13v] **At a General Meeting, 18 March 1782**
1. Agreed that the Librarian make a new Catalogue of the Books belonging to the Society, and on the same plan as that printed in 1778.[24]

2. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

3. This meeting agrees to request the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Bristol to be the President of this Society.

4. This meeting agrees to request the Reverend Dr. Casberd to continue to be the Vice-President of this Society.

5. This meeting agrees to request John Deverell Esq. to continue to be the Treasurer of this Society.

6. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Richard Bright Esq., The Very Reverend the Dean [John Hallam], Dr. Broughton, Rev. Dr. Camplin, Rev. Mr. Collinson, George Daubeny Esq., Mr. William Dyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. John Ford, John Garnett Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry.

[14r] 7. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as Vice-President, to John Deverell Esq. for

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[23] Rev. Alexander Catcott (1725–79) was a geologist and theologian who served as the vicar of Temple Church, Bristol; *ODNB*. George Symes Catcott (1729–1802/3), his brother, was a one-time pewterer and later appointed assistant librarian.
[24] *Catalogue 1782*. This minute confirms that a catalogue was printed in 1778, although no surviving copy has yet been traced.

his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer, and to the Committee for the care and trouble they have taken in transacting the business of the past year.

[14v] **At a General Meeting, 24 March 1783**
1. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour he has done them in being their President, and that he be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Reverend Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as Vice-President; and that he be desired to continue Vice-President the ensuing year.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to John Deverell Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for their care and trouble they have taken in transacting the business of the past year.

5. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

6. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee when all the members appointed to that Office last year were reelected.

[15r] **At a General Meeting, 22 March 1784**
1. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

2. This meeting agrees to request the Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Bristol to be President of this Society.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Reverend Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to John Deverell Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

5. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for their care and trouble they have taken in transacting the business of the past year.

6. The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Norwich having presented the Library Society with a copy of the Polyglott,[25] agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given

[25] I.e., the polyglot bible: *Biblia Sacra Polyglotta*, edited by B. Walton (6 vols., London, 1653–7).

to his Lordship for this mark of his approbation of the Institution; and for the Honour his Lordship did it by his Presidency.

7. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when all the members appointed to that Office last year were reelected.

8. Resolved that an additional Building to receive the Books of the Society was become necessary – Resolved also that the Committee be empowered to advertise for Plans and Estimates for such a Building, and that a General Meeting be summoned for to receive their Report.

9. Agreed that the Entrance money be advanced to four Guineas after the 29th day of September next: and that the Librarian insert this Resolution in the public papers.

[15v] **At a General Meeting, 21 March 1785**
1. Report being made by the Vice President that the Corporation had agreed to grant to this Society the void ground adjoining to the Library for the purpose of building thereon an additional Library Room, and had also voted One hundred Pounds towards defraying the expence of fronting the same with Free Stone; Resolved that the Thanks of the General Meeting be returned to the Mayor and Corporation for their generous Benefaction.

2. Resolved that two or three Members of the next year's Committee be requested with the Librarian to collect the sums which have been already subscribed towards the intended Building: and also to solicit Subscriptions from those members who have not yet subscribed.

3. Resolved that the future Committee be empowered to sign the contract with Mr. West[26] for this Building; and that he proceed with it immediately.

4. Resolved that six of the Committee, which is now to be chosen, with six other Subscribers not of such Committee, be appointed Feoffees[27] for the Building when erected and for all the other Property of the Library Society.

5. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

6. Resolved that no Person keeping a Lodging House, Inn, Tavern, Coffee House or any place of Entertainment, be permitted to subscribe to this Society.

7. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour he has done them in being their President; and that he be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

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[26] West is discussed above in the introduction.

[27] The person to whom a freehold estate in land is conveyed by a *feoffment*, i.e. the action of investing a person with a fief or fee, applied especially to the particular mode of conveyance (now almost obsolete) in which a person is invested with a freehold estate in lands by livery of seisin (at common law generally but not necessarily evidenced by a deed). *OED*.

[16r] 8. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Reverend Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

9. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to John Deverell Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

10. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for the care and trouble they have taken in transacting the business of the past year.

11. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Richard Bright Esq., The Reverend the Dean [John Hallam], Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, George Daubeny Esq., Mr. William Dyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. John Ford, John Garnett Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. John Paine Berjew.

12. The Corporation having agreed to grant in fee to the Society the ground adjoining to the Library for the purpose of building thereon an additional Library Room, reserving to themselves an annual Payment of Two Shillings and six pence for the same and covenanting for liberty of Preemption in case of a Dissolution of this Society. Resolved that such Grant be taken in the names of the Rev. Dr. Casberd, John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq., John Garnett Esq. and the Rev. Thomas Broughton, and also in the names of Stephen Nash Esq.,[28] Mr. Anthony Palmer Collings,[29] Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. John Span,[30] Mr. Orton Smith[31] and Mr. John Rudhall[32] in trust for all the members of this Society; and that the Books and other Property of this Society be also transferred into the names of the aforesaid twelve Persons in trust for themselves and the other Subscribers, and that when the number of such Trustees so appointed shall by death, or by ceasing to be Subscribers, be reduced to Four the Society shall appoint eight others of the Subscribers to be chosen at the General Meeting who with the four remaining Trustees shall be Trustees as aforesaid, and so for ever.

[16v] **At a General Meeting, 20 March 1786**
1. Resolved that the Committee be empowered to appropriate out of the next year's Income any sum that they shall think proper, not exceeding Fifty Pounds, towards paying for the new Building.

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[28] Stephen Nash Esq. was a woollen draper and an investor in various local projects. He had been educated at Oxford and received an LL.D. He served as sheriff in Bristol in 1785, and was knighted in 1786. See Latimer, *Eighteenth-Century Annals,* p. 470.

[29] Anthony Palmer Collings Esq., merchant, served as president of the Dolphin Society, and was also a member of the Steadfast Society and the Gloucestershire Society.

[30] John Span Esq., from Clifton, and sheriff in Bristol in 1797. Captain in the Bristol's Volunteer Corps during the French Revolutionary Wars. See Latimer, *Eighteenth-Century Annals,* p. 521; *Memorial,* p. 51.

[31] Orton Smith, sugar refiner in Whitson Court. Member of the sixth company of the Bristol's Volunteer Corps, and is likely to have named his son 'Edmund Burke Smith'; see *Memorial*, p. 55.

[32] John Rudhall, printer of *Felix Farley's Journal* (see edition n.3). Rudhall ran *Felix Farley's Bristol Journal* together with Thomas Cocking from 1785, and became sole proprietor upon Cocking's death in 1787. Member of the fourth company of the Bristol's Volunteer Corps; see *Memorial,* p. 51.

2. Resolved that some Gentlemen of the Society be desired to solicit Subscriptions from those members who have not yet contributed to the new Building.

3. Resolved that no Subscribers be permitted to have a Book from the Library till he has entered his name in the Subscription Book.

4. Resolved that Mr. John Dupont[33] be considered a Subscriber to this Society, as his name was on the List of Subscribers before the General Meeting which ordered that no person keeping a Lodging House be permitted to subscribe to this Society.

5. Resolved that a General Meeting be called in three months time to consider of the mode of admitting members into this Society.

6. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

7. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour he has done them in being their President; and that he be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

[17r] 8. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Reverend Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

9. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to John Deverell Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

10. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for the care and trouble they have taken in transacting the business of the past year.

11. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., The Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, George Daubeny Esq., Mr. William Dyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. John Ford, John Garnett Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. Francis Ward.

[17v] **At a General Meeting, 19 March 1787**
1. Agreed that an Insurance to the amount of twelve hundred Pounds be made on the property of this Society, viz: Seven hundred on the Books, One hundred on the Furniture, and four hundred on the Building.

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[33] John Dupont was listed as a wine merchant in *Directory 1775* and 'gentleman' in *Directory 1793–4*. For further detail, see the introduction above, pp. xxiv.

2. Agreed that the Entrance money be advanced to Four Guineas after the twenty fifth day of this month.

3. Ordered that a Catalogue of the Books belonging to the Society be printed under the direction of the Committee.

4. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

5. Ordered that the sum of Twenty Guineas be given to the Librarian as a compensation for the trouble he has had in collecting the Subscriptions towards the New Building, and for the trouble he may have in forming the Catalogue and arranging the Books.

6. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour he has done them in being their President; and that he be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

[18r] 7. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Reverend Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

8. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to John Deverell Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

9. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the late committee for their care and attention to the Interests of this Society during the last year.

10. Agreed that a List of the Committee be annexed to the Summons to the next annual Meeting.

11. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a committee, when the following Gentlemen were elected:
Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., The Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, George Daubeny Esq. Mayor, Mr. William Dyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. John Ford, John Garnett Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. Francis Ward.

[18v] **At a General Meeting, 31 March 1788**
1. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour he has done them in being their President; and that he be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Reverend Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to John Deverell Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the late committee for their care and attention to the Interests of this Society during the last year.

5. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

6. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., The Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, George Daubeny Esq. Alderman, Mr. William Dyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, John Garnett Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. Francis Ward, Joseph Smith Esq.

7. Resolved, that the Committee be directed to fit up and furnish the New Library Room for the reception of Books.

[19r] 8. Resolved, that they personally apply to all such Subscribers as have not already contributed towards the erecting and filling up the New Building for their assistance therein.

9. Resolved, that they be empowered, in case of any deficiency to make up the same, out of the money allotted for the purchase of Books for the year ensuing, not exceeding Fifty Pounds.

10. Resolved, that a Table be set up in the New Room, containing the Names of the Contributors towards the building thereof.

11. Agreed, that these Resolves be printed in the Bristol Gazette and in Rudhall's Sunday's paper.[34]

[19v] **At a General Meeting, 23 March 1789**
1. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour he has done them in being their President; and that he be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Reverend Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

[34] See edition nn.3 and 32.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to John Deverell Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the late committee for their care and attention to the Interests of this Society during the last year.

5. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

6. Agreed that a General Meeting be summoned for Wednesday the Eight day of April next, for the purpose of consistency the mode of electing committee men in future.

[20r] 7. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., The Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, George Daubeny Esq. Alderman, Mr. William Dyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, John Garnett Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Dr. James Plomer, Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. Francis Ward.

8. Agreed to allow the Librarian Five Guineas per annum in consideration of the additional trouble occasioned by the New Room to be distributed as he shall think proper in lieu of Perquisites to Servants.

[20v] **8 April 1789**
A General Meeting having been held for the purpose of considering the Mode of electing Committee Men in future, the following Question,
'That of the Committee of the preceding year, the Six Gentlemen who have the fewest Votes shall retire from the Committee at the end of the year; That the Six of the Proprietors at large, not of the former Committee, who have the greatest number of Votes be added to the Committee the subsequent year; That if one or more of the Twelve Gentlemen intended to remain refuse to act, then the Gentleman or Gentlemen having the next greatest number of Votes fill his or their place or places in Succession'. was submitted to the meeting and negatived.

[21r] **At a General Meeting, 22 March 1790**
1. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour he has done them in being their President; and that he be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Reverend Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to John Deverell Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the late committee for their care and attention in the management of the business of the Library Society during the past year.

5. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

6. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., The Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, George Daubeny Esq. Alderman, Mr. William Dyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Dr. James Plomer, Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer.

7. Agreed that the Library be in the future kept open five days in the week morning and evening at the accustomed hours, that a proper compensation be made to the Librarian for the necessary assistance, and that the Committee be empowered to settle the same. That at the next annual meeting a particular report be made of the additional expence incurred thereby.

[21v] **At a General Meeting, 21 March 1791**
1. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour he has done them in being their President; and that he be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Reverend Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to John Deverell Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that a Letter be transmitted to him accordingly.

4. Agreed that Joseph Smith Esq. be desired to accept of the Office of Treasurer to this Society.

5. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the late committee for their care and attention in the management of the business of the Library Society during the past year.

6. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

7. Agreed that the Library be kept open the ensuing year the same hours as in the preceding one; and that the same Salary be paid to the Assistant as was paid him for the last year.

8. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to procure a Person to attend during the Library hours, to light the Fires and Candles, and to do the other menial offices of the Library; and to allow him any Sum not exceeding Ten Guineas p[er] annum for the same: and that such Person be responsible to the Society for this conduct.

[22r] 9. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., The Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, George Daubeny Esq. Alderman, Mr. William Dyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Edmund Griffith Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Samuel Seyer., Mr. Francis Ward, James Tobin Esq.

[22v] **At a General Meeting, 19 March 1792**
1. Agreed that the Mayor, Sheriffs, and Chamberlain, for the time being, be deemed Subscribers to This Society.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour he has done them in being Their President; and that he be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Reverend Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as Their Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to Joseph Smith Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

5. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the late committee for their care and attention in the management of the business of the Library Society during the past year.

6. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

7. Agreed that the Library be kept open the ensuing year the same hours as in the preceding one; and that the same Salary be paid to the Assistant as was paid him for the last year.

[23r] 8. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to procure a Person to attend during the Library hours, to light the Fires and Candles, and to do the other menial offices of the Library; and to allow him any Sum not exceeding Ten Guineas p[er] annum for the same: and that such Person be responsible to the Society for this conduct.

9. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Corporation and Society of Merchants for their continued Benefactions to This Society.

10. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., The Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, George Daubeny Esq., Alderman, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Edmund Griffith Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Mayor, Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Samuel Seyer, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Charles Joseph Harford Esq.

[23v] **At a General Meeting, 18 March 1793**
1. This meeting agrees to request the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Bristol to be President of this Society, and appoints the Rev. Dr. Casberd to transmit a Letter to his Lordship with this request.

2. Agreed that the Mayor, Sheriffs, and Chamberlain, for the time being, be deemed Subscribers to this Society.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as their Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to Joseph Smith Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

5. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for their care and attention in the management of the business of the Library Society during the past year.

6. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

7. Agreed that the Library be kept open the ensuing year the same hours as in the preceding one; and that the same Salary be paid to the Assistant as was paid him for the last year.

8. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to procure a Person to attend during the Library hours, to light the Fires and Candles, and to do the other menial offices of the Library; and to allow him any Sum not exceeding Ten Guineas p[er] annum for the same: and that such Person be responsible to the Society for this conduct.

9. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Corporation and Society of Merchants for their continued Benefactions to this Society.

[24r] 10. A request having been made by the Philosophical Society to deposit for a time their apparatus in the Buildings of the Library, Resolved that it be complied with.[35]

[35] See introduction for more details.

11. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., The Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, George Daubeny Esq. Alderman, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Joseph Harford Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq., Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Samuel Seyer, James Tobin Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Francis Ward.

[24v] **At a General Meeting, 24 March 1794**
1. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Right Rev. Spencer, late Lord Bishop of Bristol, now of Peterborough,[36] for the Honour he has done them in being their President; and that his Lordship be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as their Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to Joseph Smith Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for their care and attention in the management of the business of the Library Society during the past year.

5. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

6. Agreed that the Library be kept open the ensuing year the same hours as in the preceding one; and that the same Salary be paid to the Assistant as was paid him for the last year.

7. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to procure a Person to attend during the Library hours, to light the Fires and Candles, and to do the other menial offices of the Library; and to allow him any Sum not exceeding Ten Guineas p[er] annum for the same: and that such Person be responsible to the Society for this conduct.

8. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Corporation and Society of Merchants for their continued Benefactions to this Society.
[25r] 10. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., The Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, George Daubeny Esq. Alderman,

[36] The Right Rev. Spencer Madan (1729–1813) had been translated from the see of Bristol to his new see of Peterborough earlier in 1784.

Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Edmund Griffith Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq. Alderman, Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Samuel Seyer, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward.

10. Resolved that a Specific Direction be given to the Committee to expedite the Feoffment, which was ordered March 21. 1785.

11. Ordered that four hundred copies of a List of the Books brought into the Library since the Catalogue dated July 1790 was published be printed.

[25v] **At a General Meeting, 23 March 1795**
1. Resolved that James Tobin Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq. and Rowland Edward Williams[37] Esq. be added to the Trustees before nominated, in place of John Merlott Esq. Alderman (Dead), Stephen Nash Esq. (Dead), and John Garnett Esq. v. General Meeting. March 21. 1785. Resolution 12.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Right Rev. Spencer Lord Bishop of Peterborough for the Honour his Lordship has done the Society in having been their President.

3. This Meeting agrees to request the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Bristol[38] to be President of this Society; and appoints the Rev. Dr. Casberd to transmit a Letter to his Lordship with this request.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as their Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

5. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to the Right Worshipful Joseph Smith Esq. Mayor for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; with a request that he continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

6. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for their care and attention in the management of the business of the Library Society during the past year.

7. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last: and in such payments as they shall think proper.

8. Agreed that the Library be kept open the ensuing year the same hours as in the preceding one; and that the same Salary be paid to the assistant as was paid him for the last year.

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[37] Rowland Edward Williams Esq. (1748–1826), merchant and sheriff in Bristol in 1790.
[38] Henry Reginald Courtenay (1741–1803), appointed Bishop of Bristol in 1794 and translated to Exeter in 1797.

[26r] 9. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to procure a Person to attend during the Library hours, to light the Fires and Candles, and to do the other menial offices of the Library; and to allow him any Sum not exceeding Ten Guineas p[er] annum for the same: and that such Person be responsible to the Society for this conduct.

10. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Corporation and Society of Merchants for their continued Benefactions to this Society.

11. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., The Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, George Daubeny Esq. Alderman, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Edmund Griffith Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq. Alderman, Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Samuel Seyer, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward.

[26v] **At a General Meeting, 21 March 1796**
1. Resolved that no Subscriber be allowed to have more than one Book at a time; unless for the same set, in which case he may have two.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Right Rev. Henry Reginald Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour He has done them in being their President; and that his Lordship be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as their Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to Joseph Smith Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

5. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for their care and attention in the management of the business of the Library Society during the past year.

6. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

7. Agreed that the Library be kept open the ensuing year the same hours as in the preceding one; and that the same Salary be paid to the Assistant as was paid him for the last year.

8. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to procure a Person to attend during the Library hours, to light the Fires and Candles, and to do the other menial offices of the Library; and to allow him any Sum not exceeding Ten Guineas p[er] annum for the same: and that such Person be responsible to the Society for this conduct.

[27r] 9. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Corporation and Society of Merchants for their continued Benefactions to this Society.

10. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., The Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, George Daubeny Esq. Alderman, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Edmund Griffith Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq. Alderman, Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Samuel Seyer, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward.

[27v] **At a General Meeting, 20 March 1797**
1. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to Messrs. Lowbridge & Richard Bright for their very liberal offer of taking upon themselves the settlement of the Freight of four cases of Books & Fossils The Gift of the late Dr. Broughton.

2. Ordered that a new interleaved Catalogue of all the Books of this Society be made and printed with all the convenient speed.[39]

3. Resolved that one such Catalogue be given to every member of the Society. But every Person who comes in by Transfer & every member who wants a second catalogue shall pay for the same Two Shillings & six pence.

4. Resolved that any Member be allowed to take two Books out of the Library at the same time.

5. Resolved that this Society feel themselves highly gratified by the Bequest of the late Dr. Broughton's Books, Manuscripts, coins, and collections of Natural History.

6. Resolved that the Committee be empowered to arrange the Books given by the late Dr. Broughton and dispose of those of which Duplicates are in the Library, and such other as the Committee shall judge proper.

7. Resolved that Long's History of Jamaica in Dr. Broughton's Collection of Books be presented to Richard Bright Esq. in return for his handsome offer respecting the Freight of such Books before mentioned, a Duplicate of the same being in the Library.

8. This Meeting agrees to request the Right Reverend Folliott Herbert Walker Lord Bishop of Bristol[40] to be President of this Society; and appoints [blank] to transmit a Letter to his Lordship with this request.

[28r] 9. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as their Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

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[39] *Catalogue 1798*.
[40] Folliott Herbert Walker Cornewall (1754–1831) had been appointed Bishop of Bristol earlier in 1797, and was translated to Hereford in 1803.

10. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to Joseph Smith Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

11. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for their care and attention in the management of the business of the Library Society during the past year.

12. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

13. Agreed that the Library be kept open the ensuing year the same hours as in the preceding one; and that the same Salary be paid to the Assistant as was paid him for the last year.

14. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to procure a Person to attend during the Library hours, to light the Fires and Candles, and to do the other menial offices of the Library; and to allow him any Sum not exceeding Ten Guineas p[er] annum for the same: and that such Person be responsible to the Society for this conduct.

15. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Corporation and Society of Merchants for their continued Benefactions to this Society.

16. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., The Very Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, George Daubeny Esq. Alderman, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Edmund Griffith Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq. Alderman, Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Samuel Seyer, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward.

[28v] **At a General Meeting, 19 March 1798**
1. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Right Rev. Folliott Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour He has done them in being their President; and that his Lordship be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as their Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to Joseph Smith Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for their care and attention in the management of the business of the Library Society during the past year.

5. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

6. Agreed that the Library be kept open the ensuing year the same hours as in the preceding one; and that the same Salary be paid to the Assistant as was paid him for the last year.

7. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to procure a Person to attend during the Library hours, to light the Fires and Candles, and to do the other menial offices of the Library; and to allow him any Sum not exceeding Ten Guineas p[er] annum for the same: and that such Person be responsible to the Society for this conduct.

8. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Corporation and Society of Merchants for their continued Benefactions to this Society.

[29r] 9. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., The Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, George Daubeny Esq. Alderman, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Edmund Griffith Esq., Joseph Harford Esq. Alderman, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Noble Esq. Alderman, Dr. James Plomer, Rev. Samuel Seyer, James Tobin Esq., Dr. Robert Lovell.

10. Resolved that the Third Resolution of the last General Meeting be rescinded.

11. Resolved that every Subscriber on receiving a Catalogue pay Three Shillings for the same.

12. Ordered that the sum of Ten Guineas be given to the Librarian as a Compensation for the trouble he has had in preparing the Catalogue of the Books for the Press.

[29v] **At a General Meeting, 18 March 1799**
1. Agreed that a List of the Books purchased in the course of the year be sent to each Subscriber annually with the Summons to the General Meeting.[41]

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Right Rev. Folliott Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour He has done them in being their President; and that his Lordship be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as their Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to Joseph Smith Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

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[41] *Supplement 1800*.

5. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for their care and attention in the management of the business of the Library Society during the past year.

6. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

7. Agreed that the Library be kept open the ensuing year the same hours as in the preceding one; and that the same Salary be paid to the Assistant as was paid him for the last year.

[30r] 8. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to procure a Person to attend during the Library hours, to light the Fires and Candles, and to do the other menial offices of the Library; and to allow him any Sum not exceeding Ten Guineas p[er] annum for the same: and that such Person be responsible to the Society for this conduct.

9. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Corporation and Society of Merchants for their continued Benefactions to this Society.

10. This meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Peter Baillie Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Lowbridge Bright, Mr. Thomas Evans Bull, John Cave Jr, Rev. Richard Collinson, George Daubeny Esq. Alderman, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Edward Colston Grevile, The Rev. Dr. Hallam, Dean of Bristol, Joseph Harford Esq. Alderman, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Robert Lovell, John Noble Esq. Alderman, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Dr. William Stephen, James Tobin Esq.

[30v] **Bristol Library, May 18. 1799**
It appearing to many of the Members of the Bristol Library Society, that the late election of a Committee was conducted in a very exceptionable manner, the following members (in conforming to the 8th rule) do humbly call a General Meeting for the purpose of considering the circumstances of that election; and also by what means any similar conduct may be prevented in future. The meeting to be held at half past twelve o'clock on Thursday the thirtieth day of May instant, at the Library room.
Thomas Walker, Joseph Harford, William Elwyn, J. L. Lamotte, William Battersby, Benjamin Spry, Richard King, Charles Harford, Thomas Thomas, Anthony Palmer Collings, Richard Collinson, Samuel Seyer.

At a General Meeting, 30 May 1799
1. Resolved, That a printed List, purporting to be a List of the Committee, and exactly resembling that circulated under the Sanction of the Society, but differing as to a part of the Names in that List, having been employed with a view to influence the Election, was highly improper and should be guarded against in future.

2. Resolved, That, if at any future Election for a Committee any improper means shall appear to have been employed, such Election shall be void, and the Society shall be summoned to make a new Election.

3. Resolved. That the Thanks of this meeting be given to the Reverend Dr. Casberd for his impartial conduct as Chairman of the meeting.

[31r] **At a General Meeting, 24 March 1800**
1. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Right Rev. Folliott Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour He has done them in being their President; and that his Lordship be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. Dr. Casberd for his great attention to the business of the Society as their Vice President; and that he be desired to continue Vice President the ensuing year.

3. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to Joseph Smith Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for their care and attention in the management of the business of the Library Society during the past year.

5. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

6. Agreed that the Library be kept open the ensuing year the same hours as in the preceding one; and that the same Salary be paid to the Assistant as was paid him for the last year.

7. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to procure a Person to attend during the Library hours, to light the Fires and Candles, and to do the other menial offices of the Library; and to allow him any Sum not exceeding Ten Guineas p[er] annum for the same: and that such Person be responsible to the Society for this conduct.

8. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Corporation and Society of Merchants for their continued Benefactions to this Society.

[31v] 9. Agreed that the Mayor and Master of the Merchants shall for the time being (if Subscribers) be Members of the Committee by virtue of their office, in addition to the present Number.

10. Agreed that no Person be admitted a Member of this Society, until he shall have been previously proposed at one Meeting of the Committee, and approved of by a majority of the Persons present at the next Meeting.

11. Agreed that in future no new Subscriber shall have a vote at any meeting until twelve months after he shall have paid his first Subscription.

12. Agreed that in the fourth order of the General Meeting February the sixth 1775 the word Whole be rescinded, by which the Rule will run thus: Agreed that a discretionary Power be vested in a Majority of the Committee of retaining in the

Library such scarce or valuable Books as they shall judge not proper to be sent out to the Subscribers.

13. Agreed that it be remembered to the ensuing Committee to see that all the Books be ranged in proper places and entered in the catalogues within a month after they shall be brought into the Library; and that after the 21st of June next, no Book be permitted to circulate, until it be so ranged and entered.

14. Agreed that the sum of Ten Guineas be given to the Librarian in addition to the Gratuity usually paid him, as an augmentation of his Salary.

15. Agreed that the Sum of Five Guineas be given to the Assistant in addition to the Stipend usually paid him, as an augmentation of his Salary.

16. This Meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
[32r] Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Thomas Broughton, George Daubeny Esq. Alderman, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Edmund Griffith Esq., Joseph Harford Esq. Alderman, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, John Noble Esq. Alderman, James Tobin Esq., Dr. Robert Lovell, The Rev. the Dean of Bristol [John Hallam], Rev. Richard King, William B. Elwyn Esq.

17. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour his Lordship has done the Society by being Chairman of this meeting.

[32v] **At a General Meeting, 23 March 1801**

1. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Right Rev. Folliott Lord Bishop of Bristol for the Honour He has done them in being their President; and that his Lordship be humbly requested to continue the same the ensuing year.

2. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. Dr. Casberd for his long and continued attention to the business of the Society during the time he has been their Vice President; and the Society express their regret at his having signified his not again accepting that office.

3. This meeting appoints the Rev. Samuel Seyer to be Vice President of this Society.

4. Agreed that the Thanks of this society be given to Joseph Smith Esq. for his great attention and care in the discharge of his Office of Treasurer; and that he be desired to continue Treasurer the ensuing year.

5. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the committee for their care and attention in the management of the business of the Library Society during the past year.

6. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to pay the Librarian the same Gratuity for the ensuing year which they allowed him for the last, including the augmentation of last year; and in such payments as the committee shall think proper.

7. Agreed that the Library be kept open the ensuing year the same hours as in the preceding one; and that the same Salary be paid to the Assistant as was paid him for the last year, including the augmentation of last year.

[33r] 8. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to procure a Person to attend during the Library hours, to light the Fires and Candles, and to do the other menial offices of the Library; and to allow him any Sum not exceeding Ten Guineas p[er] annum for the same: and that such Person be responsible to the Society for this conduct.

9. Agreed that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Corporation and Society of Merchants for their continued Benefactions to this Society.

10. Agreed that the Entrance Money be advanced to Six Guineas after the twenty fifth day of this month; with an exception in favour of those Gentlemen who sent in their names previous to the meeting of the Committee on the seventeenth of this month.

11. Agreed that the Reverend Dr. Casberd be one of the committee.

12. Agreed that the Committee be empowered to order Duplicates of such Books as they shall think proper.

13. This Meeting proceeded to the Election of a Committee, when the following Gentlemen were chosen:
Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, George Daubeny Esq. Alderman, Mr. Thomas. Eagles, William B. Elwyn Esq., Rev. John Prior Estlin, Edmund Griffith Esq., Joseph Harford Esq. Alderman, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Richard King, The Very Rev. Dr. Layard Dean, Dr. Robert Lovell, Rev. William Milton, John Noble Esq. Alderman, James Tobin Esq.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS OF THE BRISTOL LIBRARY SOCIETY

[154–1] **Bristol Library Society, 15 December 1772**

The following Persons were appointed by a General Meeting as a Committee of the Society:
Rev. Dr. Casberd Chairman, Mr. William Barrett, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Joseph Harford, George Daubeny Esq., Dr. Samuel Farr, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. John Deverell, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. Love, Mr. William Buller Secretary.

1. Agreed to insert the following Advertisement in the public papers:
'At a meeting of several Gentlemen in pursuance of previous advertisements it was agreed to form a Library-Society, – Each Person on becoming a member to pay one guinea Entrance and one guinea annual Subscription. – All Persons willing to become members are desired to leave their names at the Bar of the Exchange or American Coffee Houses where Books are left for that purpose.[42] The payment of the Subscriptions to be made after the next or some future General Meeting of which timely notice will be given.'

[2] ^Adjournment^
2. Agreed to meet again on Wednesday 23d instant at six o'Clock in the Evening, to consider of a Plan for the regulation of the Society.

At a meeting of the Committee, 23 December 1772
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Richard Champion, Dr. Samuel Farr, John Merlott Esq., George Daubeny Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. William Buller, Mr. John Deverell.

^Rules considered^
1. Considered and agreed on several Rules for the regulation of the Society, to be revised at our next meeting.

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[42] Exchange Coffee House and the American Coffee House in Broad Street were famous coffee houses in eighteenth-century Bristol.

^ Adjournment^
2. Agreed to meet again on Monday 28th instant at six o'Clock in the Evening.

At a meeting of the Committee, 28 December 1772
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Samuel Farr, Mr. Richard Champion, John Merlott Esq., Mr. William Barrett, George Daubeny Esq., Mr. John Deverell, Mr. William Buller, Rev. Mr. Love, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

^Rules agreed on^
1. Considered and agreed on the Rules for the regulation of the Society which the Chairman is desired to present to the next General Meeting for their consideration.

[3] ^Memorial^
2. Agreed to defer the Consideration of a Memorial to the Corporation to our next meeting.

^Adjournment^
3. Agreed to meet again on Monday January. 4tth at six o'Clock in the Evening.

At a meeting of the Committee, 4 January 1773
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. John Ford, Dr. Samuel Farr, Mr. Richard Champion, George Daubeny Esq., John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. John Deverell, Mr. William Buller.

^Memorial^
1. Considered of and agreed on a memorial to the Corporation, which the Chairman is desired to present with the Rules to the next General Meeting.

^Annual meeting^
2. Agreed to summon a General Meeting on Monday the 11th instant, of which the Secretary is desired to give proper notice.

[4] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 January 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Mr. John Deverell. Mr. John Ford, Dr. Plomer, Mr. John Peach, Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Mr. William Barrett, John Noble Esq., Mr. Mark Harford, Mr. Joseph Harford, George Daubeny Esq.

^Rules to be printed^
1. Agreed that the Rules of the Society established at the last General Meeting be inserted in each of the public Papers, and that Three hundred Copies be printed in Quarto, of which the Secretary is desired to send some to each of the Coffee-Houses and to the Members of the Society.

^Memorial^
2. The Memorial approved of by the last General Meeting being signed by these present, the Secretary is desired to get it signed by the absent Members and then deliver it to Mr. Sheriff [John] Noble who with such other Gentlemen of the Corporation as are members of this Committee are desired to present it to the Corporation, and report their answer.

^The Bishop's Letter^
3. The Rev. Dr. Casberd and the Red. Mr. Camplin brought in a Letter from the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Bristol expressing his Lordship's approbation of the design of the Society and his acceptance of the office of [5] President, as also his intention of subscribing Ten Guineas Entrance Money, and Two Guineas annually. The Chairman is desired to return his Lordship the thanks of the Committee in behalf of themselves and the Society in the most respectful terms for the honour he has done them in accepting the office of President of this Society.

^Letter to the Representatives^
The following Letter was agreed on to be sent with a copy of the Rules to each of our Representatives which the Chairman is desired to transmit; and report their answer.

Copy of the Letter.
A considerable number of Gentlemen of this City having formed themselves into a Society for the establishing a Library of which the Bishop of the Diocese has done them the honour to be President it was directed at a General Meeting to inform you of the design, and transmit a copy of the Rules.
^Adjournment.^
Agreed to meet again on Tuesday Feby. 2d. at six o'Clock in the Evening.

[6] **At a meeting of the Committee, 2 February 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Richard Champion, Rev. Mr. Love, Mr. Mark Harford, Mr. Joseph Harford, George Daubeny Esq., John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. William Buller.

^Lord Clare's Letter^
1. The Chairman brought in a Letter from Lord Clare[43] expressing his Lordship's intention of becoming a member of this Society and referring to Mr. Daniel Harson for his Subscription.[44]

^Mr. Brickdale's Letter^
2. The Chairman brought in a Letter from Mr. Brickdale,[45] expressing his intention of becoming a member of this Society and desiring to be informed, whether an annual subscription or for Life would be most acceptable. The Chairman is desired to inform him that the Committee return him thanks for the alternative, and that a Subscription for Life would be most eligible.

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[43] Robert Craggs-Nugent, 1st Earl Nugent PC and Viscount Clare (1709–88), Irish politician and poet. First Lord of Trade in 1767–8.
[44] Daniel Harson (d. 1778) is almost certainly the Collector of Customs in the Port of Bristol whose will dated 12 June 1779 is held at TNA. 'He had been a Dissenting Minister at a chapel in Old Tucker Street (afterwards Bath Street), but he changed his principles and became Tory and High Church'; *Bristol Royal Infirmary*, p. 272.
[45] Matthew Brickdale (1735–1831), MP for Bristol in 1768–74 and 1780–90, and common councillor in Bristol from 1767 to 1784. Clothier and undertaker by profession, and inherited £100,000 on his father's death in 1765. From a Tory family and a Parliamentary diarist.

^General Meeting^
3. Agreed to summon a General Meeting on Monday the 8th instant to consider of the choice of a Librarian.

[7] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 March 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. Joseph Harford, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Farr, George Daubeny Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. Love, John Noble Esq., Mr. T. Eagles, Mr. William Buller.

^Mr. Brickdale's Subscription^
1. The Chairman brought in a Letter from Mr. Brickdale Esq. inclosing a Bill of Twenty of Pounds as his Subscription – who is desired, to return the thanks of the Committee on behalf of the Society.

^Bookseller^
2. Agreed that Mr. Beckett[46] be employed to furnish the books for the use of the Society, which he engages to do for an allowance of five per cent., above the prime cost and charges of Carriage.

^Adjournment^
3. Agreed to adjourn the Committee till the Library-room is ready for their reception, of which the Librarian is desired to give notice.

[8] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 June 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. John Deverell, John Noble Esq., Dr. Farr, George Daubeny Esq., Mr. John Ford, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. Love, Mr. William Buller.

^Advertisement^
1. The Secretary is desired to get the following advertisement to be inserted in each of the Bristol papers. – 'The Committee of the Bristol Library Society give notice that the Library will be open on Thursday July 1st. – The Librarian will attend on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from Ten in the morning till One, and on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from six in the Evening to nine; agreeable to the Rules fixed at the General Meeting.'

^Books from Mr. Stonehouse [Stonhouse]^
2. The Committee being informed that sundry books belonging to the public Library[47] are in the hands of the Rev. Mr. G. Stonehouse,[48] the Librarian, is desired to apply to him to have the books returned.

^Adjournment^
3. Agreed to meet on Tuesday the 6th of July at six o'Clock in the Evening, and that the meeting be continued at the same hour every other Tuesday of which the Librarian is desired to give notice to the absent members of the Committee.

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[46] John Brice Becket (d. 1806), Bristol bookseller; for further information, see the Introduction, p. xxvi.
[47] I.e., the old library in King's Street; see introduction for details.
[48] George Stonhouse (or Stonehouse) (1714–93), wealthy Anglican clergyman and a key figure in the evangelical revival; *ODNB*. Stonehouse was a Whig and one of the very few among the Anglican clergy who voted for Burke in 1774.

[9] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 July 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. John Deverell, Thomas Farr Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, John Merlott Esq., Mr. William Buller, John Noble Esq.

^Mr. Stonehouse^
1. The Librarian informed the Committee that Mr. Stonehouse being at his Country house could not be applied to – he is desired to wait on him when he returns to Town.

^Donations^
2. Several Gentlemen having presented the Society with books, agreed that a book be provided to enter these and any future donations with the names of the Donors therein – and the Librarian is also desired to write the Donors' name in the first blank leaf of each book.

^General Meeting^
3. Agreed to recommend to the next General Meeting that any Person who shall give to the Society Books of the value of Twenty Pounds or upwards shall be deemed a Member for Life.

^President^
4th. The President being now in Town Dr. Casberd is desired to wait on his Lordship with the respectful Compliments of the Committee and desire him to fix a time when they may wait on him at the Library-room.

[10] ^Books ordered^
5. Agreed to order the following books

^Chronology^
Blair's Chronological Tables with a supplementary map of Asia.
^History^
Dalrymple's Memoirs of Great Britain, with the appendix.
Ld. Littleton's Life of Henry 2d. – 8vo. edit.
Dowe's History of Hindostan, 2 Vol. 4to.
History of the European Settlements in America, 2 Vol. 8vo.
Anson's Voyages – 8vo. edit.
Hawksworth's Edition of Voyages. 3 Vol. 4to.
Holwell's History of Bengal. 2 Vol. 8vo.
Charlevoix's Voyage to N. America 2 Vol. 8vo.
Ulloa's Voyage to S. America 2 Vol. 8vo.
Clarke's Letters concerning the Spanish Nation, 4to.
History of St. Kilda. – 8vo.
Marshall's Travels thro' Holland, Germany &c. 3 Vol. 8vo.
Pennant's Tour thro' Scotland – 12mo.
Private Life of the Romans – 12mo.
Mosheim's Eccles. History – 5 Vol. 8vo.
Farnworth's Life of Pope Sixtus the fifth
King's Ceremonies of the Greek Church 4to.
^Arts & Sciences^
Ferguson on civil Society – 8vo.

Essay on the course of a Liberal Education 8vo.
Bielfield's Elements of Universal Erudition 3 Vol. 8vo.
Priestly on Electricity – 4to.
The Handmaid to the Arts – 2 vol. 8vo.
^Divinity^
Jortin's Dissertations – 8vo.

^Books to be marked^
6. Agreed that the books belonging to the Society be marked on the outside of the cover with the words 'Bristol Library-Society' and that a stamp be provided for that purpose.

[11] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 July 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. John Ford, Dr. Samuel Farr, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr. John Deverell, Mr. William Buller, Dr. James Plomer, Mr. William Barrett.

^Mr. Stonehouse^
1. The Care of the books in the hands of Mr. Stonehouse continued – to be applied for on his return to Town.

^President^
2. Dr. Casberd informs the Committee that he has waited on the President, and that his Lordship intends to honour the Committee with his company at the next meeting.

^Mr. Innys' Donation^
3. Mr. Innys of Redland[49] having presented the Society with a Subscription of Dr. Hennicott's Bible, the Vice President is desired to return him the thanks of the Committee on behalf of the Society.

4. Agreed that the following books to be sent for.

^History Biography &c.^
Granger's Biographical Hist. of England. 4to. 4 Vol.
Robertson's History of Scotland – 8vo. 2 Vol.
Leland's History of Ireland
Anecdotes of British Topography
Molesworth's Account of Denmark
Pontoppidan's Natural Hist. of Norway.
[12] ^History Biography &c.^
Porter's Account of the Turks
Orrery's Letters from Italy
Burney's Tour thro' Germany
[Burney's] Tour thro' Italy

[49] John Innys Esq. (d. *c*. 1780) of Redland Court, an elegant house in Westbury near Bristol. Innys was the younger brother of the bookseller William Innys and he was a partner in his business for some time. He owned an impressive collection of maps. See Samuel Rudder, *A New History of Gloucestershire* (Cirencester, 1779), p. 796, and Richard Gough, *An Essay on the Rise and Progress of Geography in Great-Britain and Ireland* (London, 1780), pp. iv–vii.

Lady Russell's Letters
Jortin's Remarks on Eccles. History
Wharton's Life of Sir Thomas Pope
^Divinity & Ethics^
Hoadley's Works
Bp. Sherloc's Sermons 4 Vol. 8vo.
Jortin's Sermons – 7 Vol. 8vo.
Sterne's Sermons.
Beattie on Truth
^Law^
Blackstone's Commentaries – 8vo.
Bourn's Justice – 8vo.
^Belles Lettres^
Piercy's Relicks of antient Poetry
Wharton's Observations on Spencer
[Wharton's] Criticisms on Pope
Littleton's Dialogues of the dead
Sterne's Shandy & Sentimental journey
Hurd's Works – 3 Vol. 12mo.
^Classics^
Ainsworth's Dictionary.

[13] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 August 1773**
Present: The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Bristol, President, The Rev. Dr. Casberd, V. President, Mr. William Barrett, Mr. William Buller, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Mr. Richard Champion, George Daubeny Esq., Mr. John Deverell, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Dr. Samuel Farr, Mr. Mark Harford, Mr. Joseph Harford, Rev. Mr. Love, John Merlott Esq., Dr. James Plomer.

^ Mr. Brickdale's Books^
1. Matthew Brickdale Esq. having offered to the Society the use of a collection of books to be deposited in the Library subject to the same regulation as the others, until he think proper to recall them.[50] The committee return him their thanks in behalf of the Society.

^Books ordered^
2. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Hume's History of England
Robertson's History of Charles 5th.
Lives of Leland, Wood & Hearne
Sir William Hamilton's Letters
*[51]Clarke's Essay on Study
*Foster's Essay on Accent & Quantity
Aikin's Essay on Song Writing
Monthly Catalogue

[50] See 'A Catalogue of Mr. Brickdale's Books', appendix in *Catalogue 1774*.
[51] It is unclear what the asterisks here and below denotes. In the catalogues they refer to donations.

[14] 3. Agreed that all new books remain in the Library a month before they are delivered out to any of the Society

4. Agreed to meet this day Sen'night[52] at five in the afternoon.

[15] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 August 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Samuel Farr, Mr. Richard Champion, Dr. James Plomer, Mr. John Ford, Mr. S. Munckley, Mr. Thomas Eagles, George Daubeny Esq., Mr. William Buller, John Merlott Esq.

^Blair's Table^
1. The Librarian is desired to return to the Bookseller Blair's Chronological Tables being imperfect, and to order another Sett with the supplementary map of Asia and the Index.

^Adjournment^
2. Agreed to meet this day sen'night at 5 in the Evening.

[16] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 August 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. James Plomer, Dr. Samuel Farr, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr. John Deverell, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. William Buller.

^Books ordered^
1. Agreed that the following books be sent for,

Buchanan's History of Scotland
Vertot's Revolution of Sweden
History of Paraguay 2 Vol. 8vo.
Memoirs of Ninon de L'Enclos. 2 Vol. 12mo.
*Baron Bielfield's Letters 2 Vol. 8vo.
*Lyttleton's Dialogues
*Madame de Bocages' Letters
*Letters of Madame de Caylus
Munter's Account of Brandt & Struensee
Harris's Hermes
Barrington's Observation on ancient Statutes
Montague's Observations on Shakespeare
Fitzosborne's Letters
Carter's History of the University of Cambridge
Blackstone's Law Tracts – 2 Vol. 8vo.
Blackstone's Analysis

^Bookseller's Bill^
2. The Secretary is desired to order the Bookseller's Bill to be sent to our next meeting.

[52] Archaic term for a week (literally, a period of seven successive days and nights); *OED*.

[17]^Tea and Coffee^
3. Agreed that each member of the Committee contribute Three Shillings quarterly, commencing from the 31st instant, toward the expence of Tea and Coffee.

^General Meeting^
4. Agreed to propose to the next General Meeting that each Subscriber contribute one Shilling annually to have such books as he shall chuse to read, sent to his house, and fetch'd back when the limited time for keeping them is expired.

[18] **At a meeting of the Committee, 31 August 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, John Merlott Esq., Mr. John Deverell, Rev. Mr. Love, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

^Mr. Cadell's Donation^
1. Mr. Thomas Cadell Jr[53] Bookseller in London having presented the Society with the elegant Addition of Addison's works printed by Baskerville in 4 Volumes Royal Quarto,[54] the Librarian is desired to return him the Thanks of the Committee on behalf of the Society.

[19] **At a meeting of the Committee, 14 September 1773**
Present: Dr. Samuel Farr, Mr. Richard Champion, Dr. James Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. John Deverell, Rev. Mr. Love, Mr. William Buller.

^ Lamp^
1. Messrs Noble and Merlott are desired to request of the Corporation that a Lamp be fixed at the outer gate of the Library house.

^ Lamp & Bell^
2. Agreed to have a Lamp in the Hall and a Bell in the Library, as also a Sheet of Lead to cover the Hearth, all which the Treasurer is desired to purchase on account of the Society.

^Bookseller's Bill^
3. The Bookseller's Bill being brought in which amounts to Fifty-four Pounds six Shillings and seven pence for Books, and Five Pounds, five Shillings and four pence for Stationary wares, the Secretary and Librarian are desired to examine it and report the same to the next meeting.

^Mr. Stonehouse books^
4. Mr. Stonehouse has returned seven books to the Library – there remain with him Panini Lexicon and one Volume Comment. Cornelii a Lapide. He has presented the Society with a Syriae-Testaement.

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[53] See introduction for more information about Cadell. Three men named Thomas Cadell were involved in the book trade. Sher denotes this man 'Thomas Cadell I' to distinguish him from his son, also Thomas (1773–1836); *Enlightenment and the Book*. Junior is used in the minutes to distinguish this Cadell from his uncle, the Bristol bookseller of the same name.

[54] *The Works of the Late Right Honorable Joseph Addison, Esq*. (4 vols., printed by John Baskerville, for J. and R. Tonson, At Shakespear's Head in the Strand, London, 1761); for further information, see the Introduction, p. xxvii.

[20] ^Books ordered^

5. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Anglo-Saxon Version from Orosius by Alfred
Coleman's Terence. 2 Vol. 8vo.
Hurd's Works except the Dialogues
Lowth's Grammar
Talbot's Letters on the French nation 2 Vol. 12mo.
Whytt's Works.
Eustachii Tabulae Anatomicae
Tournefort's Voyage to the Levant
Noorthouck's History of London
Brydone's Tour thro' Sicily & Malta 2 Vol. 8vo.
Baron Riedesel's Travels thro' Sicily
Rolt's History of the Isle of Man
Priestley's Grammar
Harris's Treatises
Wharton's Hist. of the rise and progress of Poetry 4to.

[21] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 September 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, John Merlott Esq., Mr. John Deverell, Mr. Richard Champion, Dr. James Plomer, Dr. Samuel Farr, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr. William Buller.

1. The Secretary and Librarian having reported that on Examination they find the Bookseller's Bill to be right, the Treasurer is desired to pay the sum

^Books ordered^
2. Agreed that the following books be sent for,

Johnson's Dictionary 2 Vol. folio
Rouchefoucault's Maxims 12mo.
Mason's Poems
Tully's Cato by Melmoth
Young's System of Agriculture
Country Gentleman's Companion 2 Vol. 12mo.
Dodsley's Collection of Poems 6 Vol. 12mo.
Pearch's Collection of Poems 4 Vol. 12mo.
Whitaker's History of Manchester 2 Vol. 8vo.
Annual Register for 1772.
Buckingham's Works 2 Vol. 8vo.

[22] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 October 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. John Peach, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, Mr. John Ford, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. John Deverell, Mr. Thomas Eagles, John Merlott Esq., Mr. William Buller.

^Light Money^
1. The Librarian having informed the committee that he has by him five Guineas and four Portugal Pieces which were taken of some of the Subscribers before the late Act for regulating the Coin,[55] The Treasurer is desired to receive the same at the nominal Value and debit the Cash account with the loss on the sale of them.

^Register^
2. Agreed that each person who takes a book from the Library enter their names in the Register, and whoever sends for a book is desired to send a written order signed with their name and dated.

^ Lamp^
3. Dr. Farr is desired to request of Richard Farr Esq. Alderman, that a Lamp be ordered to be fixed at the outer Gate of the Library-house.

[23] ^Books ordered^

4. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Biographia Britannica
Archaeologia 2 Vol. 4to.
Linnaei Systema natura 2 Vol. 8vo.
Philosophical Transactions; for the last year.
Priestley's Treatise on Optics.
Macbride's Experimental Essays
The origin and progress of Language
Critical enquiry into the opinions & practice of the ancient Philosophers.
Strachey's narrative of the meeting at Bengal.
Webb on Poetry and Painting
Aikin's Poems and Essays
Memoirs of G. Psalmanazar.

[24] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 October 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. Richard Champion, Dr. Samuel Farr, Dr. James Plomer, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Samuel Munckley, John Merlott Esq., Mr. John Deverell, Mr. William Buller.

1. Mr. Richard Champion having reported that the Society of Merchants of this City have ordered a Donation of Twenty Guineas to this Society, he is desired to return the Thanks of the Committee on behalf of the Society.

2. Agreed that the following books to be sent for,

[55] Probably a reference to the resolution of the House of Commons on 10 May 1773 'respecting the State of the Gold Coins'. In response to worries that 'the gold coin of this realm has been greatly diminished, by clipping, filing, and other evil practices', the Commons resolved to take in and recoin all guineas, half guineas and quarter guineas below specific weights. *Cobbett's Parliamentary History of England: From the Norman Conquest, in 1066, to the Year, 1803* (36 vols., London, 1812–20), XVII, cols. 1327–8

Montesquieu's Spirit of Laws 8vo. 2 Vol.
Kaims' Elements of Criticism 8vo 3 Vol.
Sale's Koran 8vo. 2 Vol.
An appeal to common Sense. 8vo.
Shenston's Works – 12mo. 2 Vol.
Walpole's Catalogue of royal & noble authors
Essays from the Batchelor 12mo. 2 Vol.
L'Esprit de L'Encyclopedie 12mo. 5 Vol.
Les Maximes de Rochefoucauld
Elemens de l'Histoire generale moderne par L'Abbé Millot 5 Vol. 12mo.

[25] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 November 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Richard Champion, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Dr. Plomer, Mr. William Buller, Mr. John Peach.

1. Agreed to have a Lanthorn on the Stair Case which the Treasurer is desired to purchase.

2. Agreed that the following books be sent for,

Spence's Polymetics
Blackwell's Court of Augustus 2 Vol. 4to
Robert's Atlas
Hanway's Travels into Persia
Du Halde's History of China 4 Vol. 8vo.
Harris's Voyages by Campbell
Priestley's Charts of History & Biography
Whitelocke's Embassy to Sweden
Ridley's Life of Bishop Ridley
Leland's View of Deistical Writers
Rural Oeconomy
Chymie experimentale et raisonnée par Mr. Baume
Reid's Enquiry into the human mind
Beattie's Poems
Leland's Life of Alexander
Melmoth's Pliny

3. Agreed to meet next Tuesday Evening at the usual hour, of which the Librarian is desired to give notice.

[26] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 November 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, George Daubeny Esq., Mr. Deverell, Mr. Munckley, Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Richard Champion, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Ford, Mr. Mark Harford, Mr. Buller, Dr. James Plomer.

1. Agreed to have a Lamp at the outer Gate of the Library-house, which the Treasurer is desired to give orders for.

2. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Hutcheson's System of Moral Philosophy 2 Vol. 4to.
Smith's Theory of Moral Sentiments. 8vo.
[de Pouilly] Theory of agreeable Sensations. 12mo.
Grose's Antiquities of England
Kuster de vero usu verborum mediorum
Porney's Heraldry
Guthrie's Select orations
[Guthrie's] Letters to Atticus
Melmoth's Cicero
Clarendon's State papers – small paper
[Clarendon's] Life
Jones's Hist. of the life of Nadir Shah
Gil blas by Smollett
Sir William Davenant's Gondibert
Dodsley's Fugitive pieces
Foundling Hospital for wit.

[27] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 November 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. Joseph Harford**,** Mr. John Peach, Dr. Plomer, Mr. John Deverell, Dr. Farr**,** John Merlott Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles**,** Mr. John Ford, Mr. William Buller.

1. The Bookseller's Bill being brought in to 20 November amounts to Twenty eight Pounds one Shilling, which having been examined by the Librarian, the Treasurer is desired to pay.

2. Agreed that the following Books be sent for

West's Pindar. 4to. Edition
Lowth de Sacra Poesi 4to.
Burn's Ecclesiastical Law
An Essay on Crimes & Punishment from the Italian of the Marquis de Beccaria
Cooper's Letters on Taste
Grey's Poems – by Mason
Elemens de l'Histoire generale moderne par L'Abbé Millot. 5 Vol. 12mo.
Johnson's Miscellaneous & fugitive pieces
Collins' Poems
Pasckall's [*sic*] Provincial Letters in French
Effusions of Friendship & Fancy

[28] **At a meeting of the Committee, 14 December 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. John Deverell, John Merlott Esq., Mr. John Peach, George Daubeny Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Plomer, Thomas Farr Esq., Dr. Farr, Mr. Richard Champion, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

1. The Bookseller's Bill being bro[ugh]t in to 2 December which amounts to Twenty three Pounds four Shillings the Librarian having examined it, the Treasurer is desired to pay the same.

2. Agreed that the following Books be sent for

Robert's Atlas, best edition – unbound
Bougainville's Voyages translated by Forster
Pennant's System of Quadrupeds
Yeates's Instructions of Entomology. 8 vo. £0.5.0.
Walpole's Anecdotes of Painting
Leland's Advantage & necessity of the Christian Revelation

3. The Librarian is desired to form a Catalogue of the Books belonging to the Society ranged alphabetically under the different sizes, and bring it to the next meeting.[56]

[29] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 December 1773**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Dr. Plomer, Mr. John Deverell, Mr. Mark Harford, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. William Buller, Dr. Farr.

1. Agreed that an Appendix be added to the Catalogue of the Society's Books containing a list of those lent by Mr. Brickdale which the Librarian is desired to prepare & bring to the next meeting.

2. The Vice President, The Rev. Mr. John Camplin & Dr. Farr are desired to wait on the Mayor & Aldermen to enquire if it be agreeable to them to have a Catalogue of the City Books printed.[57]

3. Mr. Ford & Mr. Deverell are desired to consider of a proper & effectual method of warming the Library-room, and bring a proposal to the next meeting.

4. Agreed that the following Books be sent for

Carte's History of England 4 Vol. Folio £4.10.0. – Cater[58]
Burghley's State Papers 2 Vol. Fol. £2.10.0. Cater No. 30
Thurloes's State papers 7 V. Fol. £3.0.0. [Cater] No. 44
Bishop Ellis's Tracts on Liberty, civil and religious
Bushin's Geography 6 V. 4to. £4.14.6. Payne[59]
Ruffhead's Statutes 11 Vol. Folio.
Tournefort's Voyage to the Levant 2 Vol. 4to. £.0.16.0. 926.
Sir Hans Sloane's Nat. History of Jamaica
Asiatic Poems by Jones
Hammonds Elegies
Lowth de Sacra Poesi

[56] Eventually printed as Catalogue 1774.
[57] This catalogue, if the project went ahead, has not been traced.
[58] I.e., from Cater's catalogue.
[59] I.e., from the catalogue of Thomas Payne (1719–99), bookseller in the Strand, London, between 1740 and 1790.

[30] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 January 1774**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, John Deverell Esq., Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. John Peach, Thomas Farr Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Mark Harford, Mr. William Barrett, Mr. William Buller.

1. Agreed that the Catalogue of the Books belonging to the Society be printed in 8vo., one side of each leaf to be left blank; the Donations to be marked with an Asterism; and the Rules of the Society with a list of the Subscribers prefixed.

2. Agreed that the Catalogue of the Books lent by Matthew Brickdale Esq. be printed, and annexed to that of the Books belonging to the Society.

3. The Treasurer and Librarian are desired to draw up a preface to the Catalogue and bring it to the Committee for their consideration[.]

4. Agreed that the following Books be sent for.

General Dictionary 10 Vol. folio £10.10.0.
Horrebow's Natural Hist. of Iceland £0.14.0.
Dr. Middleton's Works 5 vols. 8vo. £1.0.0.
Anderson's History of Commerce
Walpole's Catalogue of Royal & Noble authors
Marshall's Travels
Rutty's Essay towards a Nat. Hist. of the County of Dublin 2 Vol.
Philosophical Transactions of the Society in Philadelphia.
Burke on the Sublime
Montague on ancient Republics
Harwood's translation of Euripides

[31] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 January 1774**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, John Deverell Esq., Dr. James Plomer, Dr. Samuel Farr, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Mark Harford, Mr. Joseph Harford, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr. William Barrett, Mr. William Buller.

1. The Secretary brought in a Preface to the Catalogue of the Society's books, which being read was with some alterations agreed to, and is as follows –
'The Plan of the Society established for forming a Library by Subscription has met with such encouragement as affords the pleasing prospect of it's [*sic*] being an extensively useful & permanent Institution.

The promotion of Literature is no less interesting to those engaged in Trade & Commerce than to any other part of the Community, as besides the improvement of Navigation and the acquisition of foreign Languages whereby Commerce has been greatly facilitated and extended, the perfection to which many of our manufactures and works of Mechanism are arrived must be ascribed to Scientific Principles on which they have been founded and improved.

The Committee have the pleasure to observe that the number of Subscribers is considerably increased and that the Society have been favoured with such respectable Patronage as would do honour to any Institution. – The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of

Bristol has been pleased to accept the office of [32] President, and to present several valuable books. The Corporation of this City have granted the use of the Library room in King-Street, and at a considerable expence have rendered it convenient for that purpose. The Society of Merchants have generously contributed to the support of the Institution. The Right Honourable Lord Viscount Clare and Matthew Brickdale Esq. have each presented a liberal donation; and several other Gentlemen have given books which are distinguished in the Catalogue by an Asterisk.

The Committee beg leave to remark that in the Choice of books it has been their care to fix on such as might be useful and agreeable, and to pay regard to recommendation of every subscriber as far as was consistent with this rule, they hope therefore that the collection will in general be approved of, but if there be any, which appear to some of small importance they would wish them to consider that in such an Institution a variety of Tastes was necessarily to be consulted.

Mr. Brickdale having deposited in the Library a large number of books for the use of the Subscribers, a Catalogue of them is annexed to that of the books belonging to the Society.

Besides the books contained the Catalogue annexed, there is a Collection of more than 2000 Volumes belonging to the City, access to which may be had at the appointed time of the Library being open.'

2. Agreed that the annual meeting of the Society on the first Monday in February next be held at Nag's Head Tavern[60] in Wine Street at 5 o'Clock in the afternoon, of which the Librarian is desired to give notice by a Summons to each member.

[33] 3. The Librarian is desired to prepare two alphabetical Lists of the Subscribers, and bring to the annual meeting for the choice of a committee.

4. Agreed to recommend to the General Meeting That the Librarian be allowed for the past year Twenty Guineas and Coals & Candles.
That the Entrance Money be advanced to Two Guineas after Lady Day next.
That the Library be open for the perusal of books every morning from 9 to 2 and every evening from 4 to 10. Tuesday Evening & Saturday excepted but that books be delivered out on Evenings only from 6 to 8.

5. The Vice President having reported that Lord Clare has presented a donation of Twenty Pounds, he is desired to return his Lordship the Thanks of the Committee on behalf of the Society.

6. Agreed that the Atlas be bound in Russix Leather, and a stand provided for it, for which Mr. Richard Champion & the Secretary are desired to give the proper directions.[61]

7. Agreed to order the following books

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[60] Nag's Head Tavern was a tavern in Wine Street. It was the meeting place of the Nag's Head Club, notorious for its Jacobite principles.

[61] For Champion's active role in the early years of the library, see Max Skönsberg, 'This Revolution in the Town': Richard Champion and the Early Years of the Bristol Library Society', *Library & Information History*, 37 (2021), pp. 149–67.

Brotier's Tacitus
Brown's (Bp. of Corke) Process of the human understanding
[Brown's (Bp. of Corke)] Divine Analogy
Willoughby's Ornithology
Wright's Travels thro' France and Italy
Duncombe's Letters 3 Vol. 12mo.
Johnson's fugitive pieces
Woodward's Nat. History of the Earth
[Woodward's] History of Fossils
Biographia Britannica
Burney's History of Musick – to be subscribed for

8. Agreed to meet next Saturday Evening at the usual hour.

[34] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 January 1774**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. William Barrett, Mr. Munckley, Mr. John Ford, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Mark Harford, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Dr. Samuel Farr, Mr. William Buller.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

The Arundelian Marbles. best edition
Harleian Miscellany
Cullen's Materia medica
Musae Anglicanae
Bourne's Poems
Lives of Ashmole & Lilley
Tucker's Apology & Letters to Dr. Kippis
Bower's Lives of the Popes
Buffon's Nat. History. French
Weare's Architecture
Dugdale's Monasticon, with Stephen's continuation
Carmina Quadragesimalia

2. On inspecting the list of books ordered during the course of the last year, the following not having been supplied, Mr. Deverell who is going to London is desired to procure such of them as he can meet with.

Holwell's History of Bengal
Marshall's Travels thro Holland Germany &c. 3 Vol. 8vo.
Farneworth's Life of Pope Sixtus the 5th
Wharton's life of Sir Thomas Pope
Bp. Hoadley's works 8vo.
Jortin's Sermons – 7 Vol. 8vo.
[Jortin's] Dissertations
Blackstone's Law Tracts – 2 Vol. 8vo.
[35] Wharton's History of Poetry
Buckingham's works

Linnaei Systema natura 2 Vol. 8vo.
Walpole's Catalogue of Royal & Noble authors
Elemens d'Histoire generale par Millot
Spence's Polymetics
Chymie experimentale & raisonnée par Mr. Baume
Leland's Life of Alexander
Lowth de Sacrâ Poesi
Johnson's Fugitive pieces
Carte's History of England 4 Vol. Folio £4.10.0.
Bushin's Geography 6 V. 4to. £4.14.6.
Sir Hans Sloane's Nat. History of Jamaica
Anderson's History of Commerce
Horrebow's Natural Hist. of Iceland
General Dictionary 10 Vol. folio

[36] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 February 1774**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Dr. Samuel Farr, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Ford, Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. Barrett, Mr. William Buller .

^Corporation^
1. Dr. Casberd and Dr. Farr are desired to wait on the Corporation to ask leave to print a Catalogue of the City Books, and annex to that of those belonging to the Society.

^City Catalogue^
2. The Librarian is desired to form a Catalogue of the City Books ranged alphabetically under the different Sizes & bring to the next meeting of the Committee.

^ Housekeeper^
3. Agreed that the Housekeeper have a Donation of Two Guineas which the Treasurer is desired to pay accordingly.

[37]
At a meeting of the Committee, 22 February 1774
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Ford, John Deverell Esq., Mr. John Peach, Mr. Mark Harford, Jr, Dr. Farr, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Mr. Buller, Dr. Plomer.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for
Maclaurin's account of Sir Isaac Newton's Discoveries
Manstein's Memoirs of Russia
Henry's History of England Vol. 1 & 2.
Middleton's Life of Cicero 3 Vol. 8vo.
Law's Theory of nat. & revealed Religion
Simson's Euclid
Gregory's Comparative view of the State & faculties of man &c

2. Agreed that the books in the Library be ranged under the following general classes.

1. Theology 2. History 3. Jurisprudence 4. Philosophy 5. Mathematics 6. Natural History 7. Medicine 8. Belles Lettres 9. Miscellanies

[38]
At a meeting of the Committee, 8 March 1774
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Farr, Mr. Mark Harford Jr, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Richard Champion, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Ford, Mr. Richard Bright, John Merlott Esq., Mr. William Buller.
1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Les Saisons, Poeme 8vo. Amsterdam 1773
L'Histoire d'Angleterre [par l'Abbé Millot]
[L'Histoire] de France [par l'Abbé Millot]
Histoire ancienne des Peuples de l'Europe par le Lord de Buat 12 vol. 12mo.
Hooke's Roman History 4 Vol. 4too.
Smith's Longinus
[Smith's] Thucydides
[Smith's] Xenophon
Ives' Voyage to India & thence over land.
Observations on modern gardening.
Duncombe's Letters 3 Vol. 12mo.
Dr. Nugent's transaction of the life of B. Cellini
Wharton's History of Poetry 4to.

2. The Committee being informed that an opportunity offers of purchasing a stove for the Library considerably under prime cost. Mr. Joseph Harford & Mr. Buller are desired to inspect the same, and report their opinion of it to our next meeting.

3. The Librarian is desired to expediate the Catalogue of the City books and if possible to get it finished by our next meeting.

[39] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 March 1774**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Peach, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Farr, Mr. Bright, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Buller.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Dr. Campbell's State of Great Britain
Rutty's History of Mineral Waters
Rowning's Compendious System of nat. Philosophy 2 Vol. 8vo.
Thornton's Plautus – 5 vol. 8vo
Percival on the Poison of Lead
The Oeconomy of human life

2. Mr. Buller reports that Mr. Harford & himself have seen the stove, mentioned at our last meeting, and think it very fit for the Library room – The Treasurer is desired to purchase it for that purpose.

3. The Table which stands in the midst of the Library-room being wider than is necessary, agreed that it be cut a foot narrower in order to have a freer passage on each side; for which the Librarian is desired to give directions.

4. Agreed that no books be ordered by the Committee for the future, but what have been previously entered in the list of books proposed.

[40] **At a meeting of the Committee, 5 April 1774**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Eagles

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Leland's Demosthenes 3 Vol. 8vo.
Walker's Idea of a pronouncing Dictionary
Sommerville's Works, best edition
Dr. Hooper's rational amusements 4 Vol. 8vo.
Essai sur le caractere, les Moeurs, et l'esprit des Femmes par monSr Thomas

2. The Librarian is desired to order Grose's Antiquities to be bound in Calf & lettered.

[41] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 April 1774**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Ford, Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Farr, Mr. Buller, Dr. Plomer.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Pennant's British Zoology 4 Vol. 8vo.
The Frederician Code 2 Vol. 8vo.
Lettsom's Naturalist & Traveller's Companion
Grey's Hudibras 2 Vol. 8vo.
Thyer's Edition of Butler's remains 2 Vol. 8vo.
Lowth's Life of William of Wickham, last edition
The Origin of Laws, Arts & Sciences 3 Vol. 8vo.
Condamine's Voyage to South America 2 Vol. 4to.
Mrs. Chapone's Letters 2 Vol. 12mo.

2. The Librarian is desired to apply to Dr. Ludlow for the Hortus siccus by Mr. Buller for the Library.

[42] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 May 1774**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Peach, Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Buller.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Bolingbroke's Works 10 Vol. 8vo.[62]
Torcy's Memoirs 2 Vol. 8vo.
Gregory's Legacy
Hartley's Observations on man 2 Vol. 8vo.
Philosophical Transactions part 1 & 2 for 1773
Medical Transactions 2 Vol. 8vo
Medical Observations 4 Vol. 8vo.
Grose's Antiquities Vol. 2d
Memoirs of the House of Brandenburgh
L'Avocate Dictionaire portatif 4 Vol. 8vo.
2 Ivory paper cutters.

[43] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 May 1774**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. Ford, Dr. Farr, Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. Barrett, Mr. Buller, Mr. Joseph Harford.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

The Arundelian Marbles – last edition
Bibliotheca Bodleiana
Hasselquist's Travels
Chesterfield's Letters
Schola Italica Pictura
Young's Six months Tour
Priestley on Air – 8vo. £0.5.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 31 May 1774
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Mr. Bright, John Deverell Esq., Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Buller, John Merlott Esq.

1. Agreed that the following Books be sent

Bibliotheca Hoblyniana 2 Vol. 8vo.
Ecton's Liber Valorum 4to.
Physical & Literary Observations, Edinburgh, 3 Vol. 8vo.
Selecta Poemata anglorum hactenus inedita £0.6.0.

2. The Librarian is desired to forward the Collections of Subscriptions and deliver an account to the next meeting.

3. The Librarian is desired to get from Mr. Long's[63] the books presented to the Library by Miss Farley.[64]

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[62] No complete edition of Bolingbroke exists in 10 volumes octavo. In all likelihood this means that the library acquired the constituent works separately to make up its own complete set (see appendix 4 for details of the works involved). Tellingly, *Catalogue 1798* gives the publication date of this set as '1752 &c.', indicating that separate publication dates were involved.
[63] Probably Jonathan Long, book-binder in Tower Lane.
[64] Probably Hester Farley (1750–?), daughter of Felix and Elizabeth Farley and cousin of Sarah Farley (d. 1774). See edition n.3.

[44] **At a meeting of the Committee, 14 June 1774**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, John Deverell Esq., John Merlott Esq., Mr. Buller, Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Richard Champion.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for,

Poems chiefly rural, printed at Glasgow
The Minstrel, part 1st & 2d.
Farringdon Hill
The Cave of Morar
Carter's translation of Epictetus 2 Vol. 12mo.
Retaliation, a Poem
Abauzit's Miscellaneous translated by Harwood
Philosophical Illustrations of Shakespeare 8vo. £0.2.6.
Burge's [i.e., Burgh's] Political Disquisitions 2 Vol. 8vo.
Davis's Fugitive pieces Vol. 3d.
From Fletcher.[65]
Lowth de Sacra Poesi Hebraeorum. No. 863 £0.12.6.
Carmina Quadragesimalia

2. The Librarian is desired to finish the Catalogue of the City Books without further delay.

[45] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 June 1774**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Ford, Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Farr, Mr. Buller, John Deverell Esq.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Mead's Monita et Praecepta medica
Akenside's Poems
Ld. Chesterfield's Letters 4 Vol. 8vo.
Morrison on India Affairs £0.2.0.
Account of the new Northern Archipelago
Pennant's Tour of the Hebrides 4to.
[Pennant's] Tour to Scotland 4to.
Northern Antiquities 2 Vol. 8vo.
Ames's Typographical Antiquities

2. Agreed that a list of the books added to the Library Society since the Catalogue was published be printed, and one sent back to each Subscriber.

[46] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 July 1774**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd, Dr. Farr, Mr. Peach, Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., John Deverell Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Buller, Mr. Richard Champion.

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[65] James Fletcher (1710–95), bookseller in Turl Street, Oxford, who was active between 1730 and 1795; *BBTI*.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Contemplations on nature translated from the French of Bonnet 2 Vol.
Dr. Echard's Works 3 Vol. 8vo.
Ecton's Liber Valorum 8vo.
The Hermit of Warkworth
Lord Lyttelton's Works 4to.
Faith a Poem
Selecta Poemata Italorum – A. Pope
Price on Annuities
The Child of Nature by Helvetius

[47] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 July 1774**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Reverend Mr. John Prior Estlin, John Merlott Esq., George Daubeny Esq., Mr. Eagles, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Richard Bright, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Champion, Dr. Farr, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Buller.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Loriot's Practical Essay on Cement & Artificial Stone 8vo.
Langhorne's Country justice
Sir James Stuart [i.e., Steuart] on Political Oeconomy
Grey's Parliamentary Debates 10 Vol. 8vo.
Sully's Memoirs – 6 vols. 12mo
Borlase's Antiquities of Cornwall. 2d. edition.
Taylor's Map of Gloucestershire. To be subscribed for.
Orrery's Life of Swift
Swift's Life of Swift
Dryden's works 12 mo. except Plutarch
Brown on the Characteristics
Brown's Estimate
Du Bos on Painting, Sculpture & Poetry 3 Vol. 8vo.
Lord Kaimes's [i.e., Kames] Sketches on the history of Man 2 Vol. 4to.

[48] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 August 1774**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Farr, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Buller, Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Richard Bright

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Du Bos on Painting, Sculpture & Poetry 12mo.
Boswell's Account of Corsica 8vo.
Subscription for Evelyn's Sylva
Observations sur l'histoire naturelle par mr. Rozier
Annual Register
Mackenzie's History of health
Bossuet's Universal history 2 Vol. 12mo.
Hunter's Georgical Essays
Lettsom's materia medica 1st. No.

At a meeting of the Committee, 23 August 1774
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Farr, Mr. John Peach, John Deverell Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Buller, Mr. Eagles.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Falconer's Observations on the poison of Copper
An Essay on Blindness £0.1.6.
Kaimes's Historical Law Tracts 8vo.
History of George the 3d.
Annual Register from the beginning
Parkinson's Journal

[49] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 September 1774**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, John Merlott Esq., John Deverell Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Hutcheson's [i.e., Hutchinson] History of Massachuset's [*sic*] Bay
Lewis's Philosophical Commerce of Arts
Marmontel's Tales translated from the French
Phipps' Voyage to the North Pole 4to.
Dr. Ogilvie's Observations on composition
Goldsmith's History of the Earth and animat. nat. 1st ed.
Cursory remarks on Tragedy
State Papers & Letters addressed to Mr. Carstares
History of Jamaica, in boards.

[50] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 September 1774**
Present: John Deverell Esq., Dr. Farr, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Buller, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Richard Champion, Dr. Plomer.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Percival's Experiments & observations on water 8vo.
Rotheram's phil. enquiry into the nature & properties of water 8vo. £0.2.6.
Beccaria on public oeconomy & commerce 8vo £0.4.0.
Mead's works 4to. translated by Staack [Stack]
Montesquieux [*sic*] Miscellaneous pieces 8vo. £0.5.0.
Gerard on Genius
[Gerard] on Taste
Franklin's Letters on Electricity 4to. £0.10.6.

[51] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 October 1774**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Mr. Richard Bright, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Ford, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Buller, Reverend Mr. John Prior Estlin.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Essay on Prints
T. Edwards (of Lincoln's Inn) Works 8vo.
Tissot's Treatise on the Disorders incident to literary persons £0.2.0.
Mortimer's Elements of Commerce 4to. £0.15.0.
Granger's Supplement to his Biographical History
Strutt's View of the manners &c. of the ancient Inhabitants of England 4to. £1.11.6. – unbound

At a meeting of the Committee, 18 October 1774
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, John Deverell Esq., John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford, Reverend Mr. John Prior Estlin, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer.

1. Agreed that the Abridgement of the Philosophical Transactions be referred to a Bookseller's Catalogue

2. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Lee's Introduction to Botany
Thompson's Travels 3 Vol. 8vo.

[52] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 November 1774**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., John Deverell Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford.

1. Agreed that Mr. Deverell be desired to purchase the abridgement of the Philosophical Transactions in 7 Volumes from Mr. Caddell.

2. Ordered that the Treasurer pay Mr. Caddell's note for the books purchased by Mr. Deverell.

3. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Harwood on Temperance & Intemperance 12mo £0.3.0. bound
Guiccardini's [*sic*] history of Italy 10 Vol. 8vo.
Marshall's Travels 3 Vol. 8vo.

[53] **At a meeting of the Committee, 15 November 1774**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Mr. Ford, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Joseph Harford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. Buller, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Richard Champion.

1. The Treasurer informs the Committee that he has received a Donation from Edmund Burke, Esq.[66] of Twenty Guineas for which the Vice-President is desired to return the thanks of the Committee on behalf of the Society.

2. Agreed that the following books be sent for

[66] Edmund Burke (1729/30–97), MP for Bristol in 1774–80 and man of letters who donated several of his works to the library. See introduction for further details.

Sir William Hamilton's Etruscan Antiquities
The Ladies Travels into Spain – new edition
Sketch of the History of Cheshire
History of the battle of Flodden 8vo.

[54] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 November 1774**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Mr. Ford, John Deverell Esq., Reverend Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Richard Bright, Thomas Farr Esq., Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. Buller, Mr. Joseph Harford.

1. Agreed that a Donation of Two Guineas be given to the Housekeeper in consideration of the services she has rendered to the Society, which the Treasurer is desired to pay.

2. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Charleton on Bath Waters
Sir John Suckling's Works 2 Vol. 12mo.
Aikin's Translation of Tacitus's Life of Agricola
Clarke's Homer – Iliad & Odyssey 4 Vol. 8vo.
Williams on Education

[55] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 December 1774**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Reverend Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Farr, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Mark Harford Jr, Dr. Plomer, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Buller.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Young's Political Arithmetic 8vo £0.5.0.
Philosophical Transactions Vol. 64 part 1st. 4to. £0.7.6.
Administration of the Colonies by Pownall 8vo. 2 V. £0.8.0.

[56] **At a meeting of the Committee, 27 December 1774**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Ford, Mr. Champion, Dr. Farr, Mr. Buller, Mr. Harford.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Letters of Ben Mordecai
Oxford Almanack for 1775
Memoirs de Grammont

At a meeting of the Committee, 10 January 1775
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Thomas Farr Esq., Mr. Eagles, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford, Reverend Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Richard Champion, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Mark Harford Jr, Dr. Farr, Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Buller.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Johnson's Steven's Edition of Shakespeare
Walpole's Castle of Otranto
Johnson's Journey to the Western Islands
Philosophical Transactions part the 2d. of volume the 64.
Antiquities of Herculaneum Quarto in boards
D'Alembert's Miscellanies
History of the battle of Flodden, a poem, new Edition
Jortin's Dissertations
Laycroft's Catalogue

2. Agreed that a Catalogue be printed and one sent to each Subscriber with the notice of the General Meeting.

[57] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 January 1775**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Mr. Joseph Harford, John Deverell Esq., Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Richard Bright, John Merlott Esq., Mr. William Buller, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. Mark Harford Jr

The Treasurer brought in his Account, which was examined and approved of.

[58] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 February 1775**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Mark Harford Jr, John Deverell Esq., Reverend Mr. Walker, Reverend Mr. Camplin, Mr. Buller.

Agreed that the following Books be sent for

Philosophical Transactions abridged 11 vols. if complete uniform & neat. £7.7.0. White's Catal. No. 2191[67]
Hogarth Moralized 8vo. Edition £0.36.0.
Ashmole's Institutions of the Order of the Garter White 541.
Churchill's Poems – 2 vols. 8vo.
Lettres de Madame Maintenon
The same translated
Ecton's Thesaurus 4to. £0.18.0. Cater 5345.
Folkes on Coins 4to. White 2141.
Lee's Introduction to Botany. Robson 4233.[68]
Pennant's British Zoology. 4 vols. 8vo.
Jortin's Sermons 7 vols. 8vo.
[Jortin's] Dissertations
Sulzer on polite arts, if translated
Various methods to prevent Fires 8vo. £0.2.0.

[67] I.e., from Benjamin White's sales catalogue. White, bookseller in 63 Fleet Street, who was succeeded by his son, Benjamin White II, in 1780; *BBTI*.
[68] Probably the catalogue of James Robson (1733–1806), bookseller in New Bond Street, London, between 1759 and 1806; *BBTI*.

[59] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 February 1775**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, John Deverell Esq., Reverend Mr. Camplin, Reverend Mr. Walker, Dr. Farr, Mr. Bright, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Munckley, Mr. Harford.

1. Agreed that no Books be ordered but what have been entered in the Order-Book previous to the meeting of the Committee.

2. Agreed that the following Books be sent for

Philosophical Transactions abridged, White's Cat. No. 2191
Ames's Typographical Hist. 841 Cater's Catalogue.
Dugdale's Monasticon with Stevens's continuation Robson's Cat. 555.
Griffith's Morality of Shakespeare
An Inquiry into the Discoveries attributed to the moderns.
Popham Selecta Poemata vol. 3.
Histoire Philosophique & Politique &c. Cater's cat. 4162.
Crevier's Roman Emperors – 8vo.
Political Disquisitions vol. 3d.
Hogarth's Analysis of Beauty with the Plates.

[60] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 March 1775**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, John Merlott Esq., Reverend Mr. Camplin, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Harford, George Daubeny Esq., Mr. Richard Bright, Reverend Mr. John Prior Estlin, Dr. Farr, Mr. Buller.

1. Agreed that the following Books be sent for

Priestwick [i.e., Prestwich] on Poisons – 8vo.
The Origin of Printing – 8vo. £0.3.0.
Lillo's works. 2 vol. 12mo.
Millar's Distinction of Ranks 8vo.
Yorick's Letters to Eliza
Furneaux's Letters to Blackstone
Burnaby's Travels thro' the middle Settlements of N. America
Sheridan's Lectures on the art of Reading
Mrs. Chapone's Miscellanies
Oeuvres Philosophiques & math. de M. Gravesande publiées par Allamand [*sic*] 2 vol. 4to £0.18.0.
Philosophical Transactions – White's Catal. 2191.

[61] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 March 1775**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, Reverend Mr. John Prior Estlin, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Richard Champion, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. Buller.

1. Agreed to enquire when the new Edition of Buffon's works is expected.

2. Agreed that the following Books be sent for

London Review
Priestley's Essay on a Course of Liberal Education
Harwood's account of the different Editions of the Classics
Carter's Papers
Enfield on Speaking

At a meeting of the Committee, 4 April 1775
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Mr. Richard Bright, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford, George Daubeny Esq., Dr. Farr, Mr. Eagles, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Richard Champion, John Deverell Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Mark Harford Jr, Reverend Mr. Camplin, Mr. Buller.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Philosophical Transactions from 1751 to vol. 61st both inclusive.
Lexiphanes
Halifax's Analysis of the Roman Civil Law
1st number of Miller's Botanical plates

[62] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 April 1775**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Farr, Reverend Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Buller.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Philosophical Transactions from 1751 – to vol. 61st inclusive.
The Confessional
Henry's History of Great Britain vol. 3d.
Twiss's Travels into Spain
Barrington's Enquiry into the possibility of Sailing to the north Pole 8vo. £0.5.0.
Harris's Philosophical arrangements
Cursory remarks on the northern parts of Europe
Histoire philosophique et politique des Indes 6 vols. 8vo.
Junius's Letters
The Turkish Spy 7 vol. 12mo.
Histoire naturelle de Buffon. new edition, the three volumes which are published to be had of Elmsley.[69]

[63] **At a meeting of the Committee, 2 May 1775**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, Mr. Buller.

1. Agreed that the following books be sent for

The Jewish Spy
Nugae Antiquae
Wilson's Experiments on Phosphori 8vo.
Montfaucon's Antiquities

[69] Peter Elmsley (1736–1802), bookseller in London.

At a meeting of the Committee, 16 May 1775
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Reverend Mr. Walker, Dr. Farr, Mr. Buller, Mr. John Ford.

1. Agreed that the following Books be sent for

Linnaei opera 9 vol. No. 5278 Oatridge's Cat. £0.50.0.
Miscellaneous Dissertations on rural Subjects
Miller's Sexual System of Plants 9 last nos.

[64] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 May 1775**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Mr. Richard Champion, Dr. Farr, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Eagles, John Deverell Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Buller.

1. The Librarian is desired to write to Lockyer Davies[70] Bookseller Holborn for the Philosophical Transactions from 1751 to vol. 61st. both inclusive.

2. Agreed that the Histoire Philosophique et Politique be returned to Becket, it being a spurious edition and not that ordered.

3. Agreed that the following books be sent for

Priestley's edition of Hartley
Barry's enquiry concerning the arts
Memoires de monSr de Beau Marchi
Mason's edition of Grey's works
Chandler's Travels into Asia Minor
Niebuhr's Travels into Arabia, French
Nugae Antiguae

[65] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 June 1775**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Richard Champion, Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Eagles.

1. Agreed that the following Books be sent for

De Lolme on the English Constitution
Grose's Antiquities vol. 3d.

At a meeting of the Committee, 27 June 1775
Present: Dr. Farr, Mr. Mark Harford Jr, Mr. John Ford, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, John Deverell Esq., John Merlott Esq., Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. Joseph Harford.

1. Agreed that the following Books be sent for

Philosopher in Bristol
Oeuvres diverses de monSr Thomas 3 vol. 12mo

[70] Lockyer Davis (1719–91) traded in Holborn, London, between 1747 and his death in 1791.

Augmentés d'un Essai sur le caractere, les moeurs, et l'esprit des Femmes dans les differens Siecles. Heydinger's[71] Catl.

[66] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 July 1775**
Present: Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Farr.

1. Agreed that the following Books be sent for

Clifton, a Poem
Archaeologia vol. 3d.
Gentleman's Tour thro' Wales

At a meeting of the Committee, 25 July 1775
Present: John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. Buller.

A sufficient number not being present there was no business done.

At a meeting of the Committee, 8 August 1775
Present: John Merlott Esq., Mr. John Ford, Dr. Farr.

A sufficient number not being present there was no business done.

[67] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 August 1775**
Present: John Deverell Esq., John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, Reverend Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Farr.

1. Agreed that the following Books be sent for

Warburton's Divine Legation
Philosopher in Bristol, part 2d.
Philosophical Transactions vol. 65 part 1st.

2. Agreed that the Books now in Sheets be bound.

At a meeting of the Committee, 5 September 1775
Present: Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford, John Deverell Esq.

A sufficient number not being present there was no business done.

[68] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 September 1775**
Present: Dr. Farr, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Richard Bright, John Merlott Esq.

1. Agreed that the following Books be sent for

[71] Charles Heydinger (d. 1778), bookseller in London, who traded until his death in 1778. He was succeeded by his son Charles Heydinger, who traded until 1797.

Statutes at large vol. the last in boards
Life of Claude Joli 3 vol. 8vo £0.9.0.
Mr. Dobson's Life of Petrarch 2 vol. 8vo. £0.12.0.
Journey to the Glaciers 8vo. £0.6.0.
Laws of Shipping and Insurance by J Parker 4to.
Flights of Fancy by Penrose

2. Agreed that Mr. Ford be desired to write to Mr. White to enquire the price of the State Trials.

[69] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 October 1775**
Present: John Deverell Esq., John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr. John Ford.

The Reverend Thomas Johnes having reported to this Committee that he has a Balance of Subscription money in his hands amounting to Sixty five Pounds two Shillings. Ordered, that, the Treasurer being absent, to pay the said Balance into the hands of John Deverell Esq. and that Mr. Deverell be desired to remit to Mr. Benjamin White and Mr. William Cater Booksellers in London the amount of their respective accounts.

[70] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 October 1775**
Present: Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., John Deverell Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

Mr. Deverell reported that in consequence of the Order of the last Committee he had received from the Rev. Thomas Johnes Sixty five Pounds two Shillings, the Balance of the cash remaining in his hands, being the amount of forty seven old Subscriptions and five new Subscriptions with the Entrance money – and that he had remitted Messrs. White and Cater Booksellers in London the balance of their respective accounts amounting to Forty five Pounds nineteen Shillings.

[71] **At a meeting of the Committee, 31 October 1775**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Joseph Harford, John Deverell Esq.

1. Ordered that Mr. Johnes be desired to write to Mr. Buller to send his accounts, as his return from the Country is uncertain.

2. The Society of Merchants having ordered a Donation of Twenty Guineas, Mr. Johnes is desired to apply to Mr. Daltera The Treasurer for it.[72]

3. Mrs. Anna Boucher[73] administratrix of Mr. Edward Bridges deceased having transferred his Property in the Library to Mrs. Ann Williams,[74] agreed that Mrs. Ann Williams be admitted a Subscriber.

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[72] This is a reference to the payment of the librarian's salary.
[73] Perhaps the wife of Samuel Boucher, who signed a petition against the return of George Daubeny in the general election of 1781; see *Poll Book 1781,* p. 218.
[74] Mrs. Ann Williams (d. 1780) used the library frequently, but it is impossible to identify who she was married to, as there were many Williams's in *Directory 1775*.

4. The Reverend Mr. Newton[75] having transfer'd his Property in the Library to Captain William Hamilton agreed that Captain Hamilton be admitted a subscriber.[76]

5. Agreed that the following Books be sent for

Beawes Lex mercatoria rediviva Fol.
Parliamentary History 24 vols. 8vo.
State Trials, new Edition.

[72] **At a meeting of the Committee, 14 November 1775**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer

1. Agreed that the following Book be sent for

Letters from a Lady in Russia to her Friend in England 8vo. £0.2.6.

2. Ordered, for the better keeping of the Library warm, that a moveable Partition be erected, according to an estimate delivered in by James Jefferies Carpenter,[77] under the direction of Dr. Plomer and Mr. Ford.

[73] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 November 1775**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Mr. John Ford, Dr. Plomer, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Richard Bright, Dr. Farr, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Joseph Harford.

1. The Librarian having reported to this Committee that he had received from the Treasurer to the Society of Merchants their Donation of Twenty Guineas, Ordered that he be desired to pay the same into the Hands of John Deverell Esq.

2. Agreed that the following Book be sent for

Newton's Opticks.

[74] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 December 1775**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Farr, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. Buller.

1. Dr. Farr and Mr. Bright are desired to wait on John Noble Esq. to request him to move at the next meeting of the Corporation that the Stables before the Front of the Library be taken down.

2. Agreed that the minutes of the Committee be constantly read over after the business finished and that no Gentleman leave the Committee, until it be done, without leave of the Chairman.

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[75] *Catalogue 1774* gives this man's first name as John; the only clergyman of that name that we can trace in the vicinity of Bristol was vicar of Melksham, Wiltshire, between 1755 and his death in 1791.
[76] William Hamilton in 18 Trinity Street was captain of a man-of-war, according to *Directory 1775*, p. 40, meaning a powerful warship or frigate.
[77] James Jefferies, carpenter, 32 Horse Street.

3. The Treasurer being returned Mr. Deverell is desired to account with him for the money received and paid by him on account of the Society during the Treasurer's absence and to pay him the balance remaining.

4. The Treasurer informing the Committee that having fixed his residence at too great a distance from this city personally to attend on the office he is desired to leave the balance of his accounts in the hands of Mr. Deverell.

5. Mr. Buller having informed the Committee that he has transferred his property in the Library to Mr. Conrad Heineman[78] the Librarian is desired to insert his name in the List of Subscribers accordingly.

[75] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 December 1775**
Present: Reverend Mr. Camplin, Mr. Richard Bright, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Farr, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Ford.

1. Mr. Deverell having informed the Committee that he has received from Mr. Buller the late Treasurer the balance of his accounts, this Committee requests the favor of Mr. Deverell to act as Treasurer, until the late General Meeting in February next.

2. Mr. Deverell reports that in pursuance of the Order of the Committee of the twenty eighth of November Mr. Johnes had paid into his hands the Donation of the Society of Merchants.

3. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Sir Edward Barry on the Wines of the ancients
Sir Eldred of the Bower &c. by Miss H. More.

[76] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 January 1776**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Farr, Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Plomer, Reverend Mr. John Prior Estlin, John Deverell Esq.

1. Agreed that the following Books be sent for

Coryat's Crudities 3 vol. 3vo. £0.15.0.
Lady Luxborough's letters 8vo. £0.6.0.
Priestley on Air vol. 2d. 8vo.
Ferguson's art of Perspective 8vo. £0.3.0.

[77] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 January 1776**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Plomer, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Munckley, Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. Richard Champion, Reverend Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Ford.

[78] Longstanding member and frequent user of the library, and a subscriber to Barrett's *History and Antiquities of the City of Bristol*.

Agreed that the General Meeting, to be held on Monday the fifth of February next, be at the Bush-Tavern[79] at five o'-clock in the evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending cards to each Subscriber and by putting an advertisement into each of the four weekly Pap[ers].

[78] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 February 1776**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, John Deverell Esq., Reverend Mr. Camplin, Mr. Ford, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Eagles, Mr. John Garnett.

1. Agreed that the following Books be sent for

Ossian's Works 2 vol. 8vo.
Nicholson's Historical Libraries, last edition by T. Evans (in boards)
Neal's History of the Puritans 4 vol. 8vo.
Mattocke's [Maddox] (D D) on the Puritans
Memoirs of Queen Elizabeth by Birch, 2 vol. 4to.
Mickle's Lusiad
Atkyn's Reports of Cases during L. Hardwicke's Chancellorship

[79] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 February 1776**
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Plomer, Reverend Mr. Camplin, John Deverell Esq., The Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. John Garnett, Mr. Mark Harford Jr, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Farr.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Foster's Crown law
Macpherson's History
Nouveaux memoires de l'Academie de Berlin 4 Tom. 4to.
Les oeuvres de Montesquieu 3 Tom. 4to. Paris Edition
Wood's Remarks on Homer
The third volume of Bryant's mythology, boards

2. Ordered that Mr. Lockyer Davies be wrote to for Philosophical Transactions and that he be desired to bind them after the pattern to be sent him.

[80] **At a meeting of the Committee, 5 March 1776**
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, The Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Mr. Harford, Mr. Ford, Abraham Elton Esq., John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Farr, John Deverell Esq.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

[79] The Bush Tavern in Corn Street was one of the most famous coaching inns in the country. It was under the management of John Weeks, a former post boy who was known for his punch and turtle soup. See *The Bristol Royal Infirmary,* p. 234.

The second part of the 65th. Vol. of Philosophical Transactions in boards.
The second vol. of Strutt's view of the manners, customs &c of the Inhabitants of England – boards.
Gibbon's History of the decline and fall of the Roman Empire 1 vol. Quarto-boards
Burchett's Naval History 1 vol. folio from Mr. Cadell's Catalogue
Lenfant's history of the Council of Constance [from Mr. Cadell's Catalogue]

2. Ordered that the Thanks of the Committee be given to Mr. Scudamore for his valuable present of Rymer's Foedera 20 vol. folio

3. And that the Thanks of the Committee be likewise given to Sir Abraham Elton Baronet for his valuable present of Montfaucon's Antiquities 10 vol. folio.

4. Ordered that the five first volumes of Montfaucon's Antiquities be disposed of.

[81] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 March 1776**
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, The Reverend Mr. Camplin, Dr. Plomer, John Deverell Esq., John Noble Esq., Mr. Bright, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Mark Harford, Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Farr, Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. Ford, Mr. Garnett.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Fielding's Works, 8 vol. 8vo.
Duncan's Caesar, Whites Catalogue No. 132.
Holden on Music.
Harmer's observations on different passages of Scripture
Hampton's Polybius, 2 vol. 4to.

[82] **At a meeting of the Committee, 2 April 1776**
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, John Deverell Esq., Abraham Elton Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. John Garnett, Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Eagles, Reverend Mr. Walker.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Owen's Lectures on the Prophecies
Stephani Thesaurus Linguae Latinae 2 Vol. folio White's Catalogue 454
Theocriti opera, graece, cum Schaliis Graecis, Emendat. et Animadu. T. Wartoni & J. Toupii, 2 Tom. 4to White's Catal. 1444.
Bacon on Government
Lardner on the credibility of the Gospel
Smith's Inquiry into the Causes of the Wealth of Nations, 2 vol. 4to £0.36.0. (boards)
Stukely's Itinerarium (boards)

[83] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 April 1776**
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Ford, Mr. Joseph Harford, John Merlott Esq., Abraham Elton Esq., Reverend Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Eagles, Mr. John Garnett.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Guthrie's Geographical Grammar, 2 vols.
Farmer on the Miracles
Farmer on the Demoniacs
Hunter's Observations on Ld. Chesterfield's Letters

[84] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 April 1776**
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Plomer, The Reverend Mr. Camplin, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Ford, Dr. Farr, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. Mark Harford Jr

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Instructions d'un Pere par MonSr Trembley 2 vol.
Second volume of Chandler's Travels in Greece
Dodd's Callimachus
Farneworth's Life of Pope Sixtus, Hayes Catalogue No. 80[80]

2. Ordered that Hogarth's Analysis be bound if the binder can contrive to put in the Plates without injuring them, and that the State Trials volume the first be put in boards the leaves not be cut.

[85] **At a meeting of the Committee, 14 May 1776**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Dr. Farr, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Garnett, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Richard Bright, John Merlott Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Letters from Italy by an Englishwoman
Farneworth's Life of Pope Sixtus the fifth Cater's Catal. No. 175

At a meeting of the Committee, 28 May 1776
Present: Reverend Dr. Casberd, Mr. Richard Bright, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. Ford, Mr. Garnett, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Annual Register for 1775
Lord Orrery's Pliny, octavo
Horne's Commentary on the Psalms in boards
Pennant's Tour to Scotland, 3d-vol. boards
Tyrrwhit's [*sic*] Chaucer's Canterbury Tales
Collin's Peerage

[86] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 June 1776**
Present: Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford, John Deverell Esq.

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[80] Samuel Hayes, bookseller in Holborn Hill, London.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Bourrit's Journey to the Glaciers

At a meeting of the Committee, 25 June 1776
Present: Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Richard Champion, Reverend Mr. Walker, Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. Ford, Dr. Farr.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Van Egmont and Heyman's Travels
Justamond's Inquiries into the settlements of the East & West Indies
Lord Sommer's [*sic*] Tracts
Collins's Peerage

[87] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 July 1776**
Present: Dr. Farr, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Richard Champion, John Merlott Esq., Reverend Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Dr. King's works 3 vols. 8vo.
The State Trade by Sir Charles Whitworth
Stillingfleet's Miscellaneous Tracts 8vo.
Pope's Works with the Iliad & Odyssey, large Octavo – uniformly & well bound

At a meeting of the Committee, 23 July 1776
Present: Rev. Mr. Walker, Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. Eagles, John Deverell Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Kearney's Lectures on History
The works of Michael Drayton with Selden's commentary on the Poly Olbion
A view of the internal Evidence of the Christian Religion by Mr. Jennings [i.e. Jenyns]

[88] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 August 1776**
Present: John Merlott Esq., Dr. Farr, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Ford, Mr. Richard Bright.

A sufficient number not being present there was no business done.

At a meeting of the Committee, 20 August 1776
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, John Deverell Esq., John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. John Garnett, Reverend Mr. Walker.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

The Works of Mr. Savage 2 vol. by Johnson
The fifth volume of Medical Observations
Philosophical Transactions vol. 66th – part 1st

[89] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 September 1776**
Present: Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, John Deverell Esq., John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford.

A sufficient number not being present there was no business done.

At a meeting of the Committee, 17 September 1776
Present: Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Richard Bright, Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Garnett, Rev. Mr. Walker, John Deverell Esq., Dr. Plomer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

4th volume of Grose's Antiquities & the vol. of Plans to Do.
Anson's Voyage 2to. first impressions White's Catalogue No. 1963. £1.1.0.
The Life of Pope Clement XIV. 8vo.
Adanson's Voyage to Senegal
Hollin's Catalogue[81]

To inquiry how many volumes Linnaei amoenitates academicae are printed in, the size, & price

Ordered that Mr. Patty be desired to lay before the next Committee the Plan of the void Ground before the Library House, also a Plan of the intended building.[82]

[90] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 October 1776**
Present: Abraham Elton Esq., Dr. Farr, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Garnett, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Joseph Harford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Bright, Mr. Munckley.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Hamilton on vapours

At a meeting of the Committee, 15 October 1776
Present: Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Bright, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford, Rev. Mr. Walker.

Ordered that the Treasurer subscribe for Mr. Malton's Treatise on Perspective

[91] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 October 1776**
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Garnett, Rev. Mr. Walker, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Ford.

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[81] Possibly a reference to *Viri celeberrimi Johannis Hollier, M.D. necnon cujusdam generosi nuper defuncti, ... Being a catalogue of the libraries of Dr. John Hollier, and another gentleman deceas'd. ... to be sold ... at Thomas Corbet's shop ... on Tuesday the 2d day of May, 1727* (London, 1727).

[82] William Paty (1758–1800), architect, who later became a member of the library. He was appointed City Surveyor in 1788. See introduction for more details.

[Nothing done.]

At a meeting of the Committee, 12 November 1776
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Harford, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Bright.

Nothing done.

[92] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 November 1776**
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, John Deverell Esq., John Merlott Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Ford.

Nothing done.

At a meeting of the Committee, 10 December 1776
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, Abraham Elton Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Bright, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Champion, Mr. Garnett, John Deverell Esq.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Ganganelli's Letters 2 volumes, 2d Edition

[93] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 December 1776**
Present: John Deverell Esq., Dr. Farr, Rev. Mr. Walker, Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. Harford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Garnett, Mr. Bright.

[Nothing done.]

At a meeting of the Committee, 7 January 1777
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, The Reverend Mr. Camplin, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Harford, Mr. Bright.

No business done.

[94] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 January 1777**
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. Walker, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Champion, Mr. Eagles

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Macquer's Chemistry 2 volumes 8vo.

At a meeting of the Committee, 4 February 1777
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, John Deverell Esq.

No business done.

[95] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 February 1777**
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, Mr. Ford, Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., John Deverell Esq., Rev. Mr. Walker, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. Garnett.

Ordered that the following book be sent for

Rowley's Poems 8vo. £0.5.0. boards.

Ordered that a list of the Books purchased since the 21st of March last be printed by Lady Day next; and also about sixty lists of the Committee, and two hundred cards to summon the Subscribers to the General Meeting.

[96] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 March 1777**
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, Dr. Plomer, John Deverell Esq., Dr. Farr, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. Eagles, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Garnett, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Richard Bright.

Agreed that the General Meeting, to be held on Monday the twenty fourth day of March next, be at the Bush-Tavern at six o'clock in the Evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending cards to each Subscriber and by putting an Advertisement into each of the three Saturday's Papers previous to the General Meeting.

[97] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 January 1777**
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, John Deverell Esq., Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, The Rev. Mr. Walker, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford, Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Richard Champion.

Ordered that it be proposed at the General Board to empower the Committee to pay the Librarian his gratuity for the time elapsed since the 3d. day of February at which time it became due; and that in future they pay it at the last Committee preceding the General Meeting if the conduct of the Librarian be approved of by the Committee.

[98] **At a meeting of the Committee, 25 March 1777**
Present: John Deverell Esq., Mr. Ford, The Rev. Mr. John Camplin, John Merlott Esq., The Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, The Rev. Mr. Walker, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Diaboliad with additions
Watson's Apology

[99] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 April 1777**
Present: The Rev. Dr. Casberd, John Deverell Esq., Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. Joseph Harford, The Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Warton's Poems
Chesterfield's Miscellanies 2 vol. 4to.
Priestley's Lectures on Oratory & Criticism
[Priestley] on Air vol. 3d.
Aikin on the application of natural history to Poetry
Sharpe on the origin & structure of the Greek Tongue
Philosophical Transactions vol. 66th – part 2d.

2. Ordered that Mr. Ford be desired to write to Mr. White, Bookseller in London, for 'A Capital Set of Books', consisting of the Ruins of Palmyra and Balbec, by Mr. Wood, 2 vol. 1753 & 59 – Ruins of the Emperor Diocletian's Palace at Spaltro, by Adam, 1764 – Ruins of Poestum, by Major, 1768 – Ionian antiquities, by Chandler, Revett and Pars, 1769 – Reliquiae antiquae Urbis Romae, Amst. 1708 – Ruines de la Grece, par le Roy, 2 Tom. en 1. Par. 1770 – 7 vol. fine impressions of the plates, elegantly & uniformly bound by Roger Payne, £35.0.0. White's Catalogue No. 117.

[100] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 April 1777**
Present: The Rev. Dr. Casberd, The Rev. Mr. John Camplin, John Deverell Esq., The Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Antiquarian Repertory
Ben Mordecai's answer to Soame Jenyns
Hurd's Sermons – 1 vol.
Hurd's Remarks on Hume's Essay on the natural history of Religion addressed to the Rev. Dr. Warburton
Strutt's Chronicle 4to.

[101] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 May 1777**
Present: Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, The Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, The Rev. Mr. Walker, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Garnett, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Henry's History of Great Britain vol. 3d.
Watson's History of Philip 2d. – 2 vol. 4to.
Anecdotes of the author of the Henriade
Wraxall's Memoirs of the Kings of France of the house of Valois
Justamond's Inquiries into the settlements of the East and West Indies
Antiquarian repertory – all the numbers that are published

At a meeting of the Committee, 20 May 1777
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, John Deverell Esq., Dr. Plomer.

[102] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 June 1777**
Present: John Deverell Esq., Mr. Richard Bright, Dr. Farr, Mr. John Ford.

At a meeting of the Committee, 17 June 1777
Present: Mr. John Ford, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Richard Champion, John Deverell Esq.

1. Ordered That the following books be sent for

Robertson's history of America 2 vol. 2to.
Archbishop Herring's letters
Archaeologia vol. 4th.
Miss More's Essays
Howard's account of Goals
Cook's Voyage 2 vol. 4to.
Eighteenth number of antiquarian Repertory

2. Ordered that the thanks of the Committee in behalf of the Society be given to Mr. Richard Ash[83] for his present of Bishop Burnett's history of his own times 2 vol. folio.

3. That the thanks of the Committee in behalf of the Society be given to Mr. George Catcott for his present of Rowley's Poems with manuscript annotations &c.[84]

[103] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 July 1777**
Present: Mr. Richard Champion, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. John Ford, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Farr.

Agreed that the following books be sent for

Linnaei amoenitates academicae
Hunter's Evelyn's Sylva
Orlando furioso di Ariosto

Agreed that the Ruins be covered with leather coverings; and the books in boards be bound.

At a meeting of the Committee, 15 July 1777
Present: John Deverell Esq., Mr. Eagles, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, The Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

Agreed that the Librarian inquiry the price of oaken framed doors with brass wire, sufficient to cover one of the book-cases in the Library.

Agreed to have a Bell at the upper end of the Library.

[83] Richard Ash was a raisin wine maker in 19 Thomas Street. He was the father of the distiller Edward Ash (1745–1818), who also became a library member.
[84] See introduction for more details about the future sub-librarian Catcott and his promotion of the Rowley poems.

[104] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 July 1777**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Richard Champion, Mr. Joseph Harford, The Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, John Deverell Esq.

Ordered that the following books be sent for

Georgical Essays vol. 5th.
Forster's voyage
Extinct Peerage of England by Almon
Arms, Crest &c. of the Peers £0.2.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 12 August 1777
Present: John Deverell Esq., John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford, Mr. Garnett, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Richard Champion, Dr. Plomer.

1. Agreed that the following book be sent for

Beattie on the immutability of the Truth & other Tracts 4to.

[105] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 August 1777**
Present: John Deverell Esq., Abraham Elton Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Garnett, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, John Merlott Esq.

Ordered that the following books be sent for

Etat de medicine, chirurgie & Pharmacie en Europe 8vo.
The Spirit of Athens by William Young Esq. 8vo.

At a meeting of the Committee, 9 September 1777
Present: John Deverell Esq., Dr. Plomer, Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. Ford, Dr. Farr.

[106] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 September 1777**
Present: John Deverell Esq., Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Farr, Mr. Richard Champion.

1. Ordered that the following Books be bought

The Cambridge Edition of the Classic Poets 5 vol. in quarto – viz Virgil, Horace, Terence, Catullus, Tibullus & Propertius, and Lucretius.
Justinian's Institutes by Dr. Harris, quarto.

2. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Sauvage nosologia methodica 5 vol. 8vo.
Young's northern & eastern Tour 8 vol. 8vo.

[107] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 October 1777**
Present: John Deverell Esq., John Merlott Esq., Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

The Philosophical Transactions vol. 67th – part 1st.
Annual Register for 1776
Incas by Marmontel 2 vol. 12mo. £0.6.0.
Kalm's Travels into North America 2 vol. 8vo.

2. Agreed that the Treasurer be desired with the Librarian to examine the state of the unbound Books, and to get as many of them bound as the Treasurer shall think proper.

[108] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 October 1777**
Present: The Reverend Dr. Casberd, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for
Blair's Sermons
Life of Philip of Macedon 2 vol. 8vo.

2. Ordered that Mr. Broughton's Sermons be subscribed for.

At a meeting of the Committee, 4 November 1777
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bourn's Antiquities populares 8vo.
No. 933 Cater's Catalogue, Cambridge's Account of the war in India.
No. 676 Spelmanni Glossarium corio Russico

[109] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 November 1777**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. Ford, Dr. Farr, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Bright, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Cook's Voyage 2 vol. 4to.
Carte's History of England 4 vol. folio.
Campbell on the miracles against Hume

At a meeting of the Committee, 2 December 1777
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. Ford, Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford, Dr. Plomer.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Boyse's Review of the war of 1741 – 2 vol. 8vo.

[110] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 December 1777**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford.

1. Ordered that Mr. Ford be desired to give the Thanks of the Society to the Rev. Dr. Stonhouse for the present of his Tracts.[85]

2. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Robertson's History of America 2 vol.
L'Esprit de la Ligue

At a meeting of the Committee, 30 December 1777
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Richard Champion.

[111] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 January 1778**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, The Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Dr. Farr, Mr. Richard Bight, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Joseph Harford.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

The new Edition of Chambers's Dictionary publishing in numbers.
Macquer's Chemical Dictionary 3 vol. 8vo. last Edition by Keir.

2. Ordered that the Treasurer be desired to pay the Librarian Fifteen guineas being three fourths of the gratuity allowed him for the present year.

[112] **At a meeting of the Committee, 27 January 1778**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Richard Bright, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, Mr. Joseph Harford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles.

1. Ordered – that the following Books be sent for

Port Royal Grammars Greek & Latin, 3 vol.
The best Edition of Junius's Letters

2. That the Librarian make a fresh Catalogue and range the Books according to their several Subjects.

[113] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 February 1778**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Joseph Harford, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford.

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[85] Sir James Stonhouse (1716–95), English physician and cleric, known as a hospital founder and religious writer, and brother of George Stonhouse.

Ordered that Mr. Ford be desired to write to Mr. Paine Bookseller in London to enquire the price and condition of Dugdale's Monasticon in his present catalogue.

At a meeting of the Committee, 24 February 1778
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq.

[114] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 March 1778**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Richard Bright, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq.

1. Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Catcott on the Deluge – last edition

2. Ordered that the Treasurer be desired to pay the Librarian the balance of his Stipend allowed him for the present year.

3. Agreed that the General Meeting, to be held on Monday the twenty third of this month, be at the Bush Tavern at six o'clock in the evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending cards to each subscriber on the Thursday previous to the General Meeting.

4. Agreed that the List of the present committee be sent to each Subscriber, along with the summons for the General Meeting, desiring them to make what attentions in it they think proper, and to bring it with them to the General Meeting.

[115] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 March 1778**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Ford, Abraham Elton Esq., Dr. Farr, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Thicknesse's Sketches of the Lives & Writings of the Ladies of France
Calmet's Dictionary 3 vol. folio White's Catal. No. 8328.
Campbell's Vitruvius Britannicus White's Cat. No. 30
Stephani Thesaurus Linguae Graecae White's Cat. No. 388.
Ducarel on Endowments.

2. Ordered that Mr. Ford be desired to write to Mr. White, Bookseller in London, for Calmet's Dictionary, Campbell's Vitruvius Britannicus and Stephani Thesaurus Linguae Graecae, in his Catalogue.

3. Ordered that Catesby's natural History proposed at this meeting be considered at the next Committee.

4. Ordered that Mr. Paty be desired to meet the Committee at the Library on Friday next at twelve o'clock to prepare a plan for a Building adjacent to the Library.

[116] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 April 1778**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Harford, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Richard Champion, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Warton's second volume of English Poetry
Lucan in White's Catalogue no. 1327
Apthorp's Letters on the prevalence of Christianity
Stuart's History of the rise & progress of society
Hull's Collection of Letters between the Duchess of Somerset &c. &c.
Ducarel's Anglo Norman antiquities White's Cat. No. 741.

[117] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 April 1778**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Joseph Harford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Les causes celebres – 26 vol.

[118] **At a meeting of the Committee, 5 May 1778**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Melmoth's Laelius
Lettres physiques et morales sur les montagnes et sur l'histoire de la Terre et de l'homme par mon Sr De Luc. £0.3.6.
A Treatise on the Situation, Manners & Inhabitants of Germany &c. by C. Tacitus translated by J. Aikin. £0.3.6.
The Antiquities of Westmorland & Cumberland
Hutchins's History of Dorsetshire
Aeschyli Tragoediae – White's Catalogue No. 1250
Potter's Translation of Aeschylus

2. Agreed to take in no more numbers of the Cyclopaedia, 15 of which are already received.

[119] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 May 1778**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford, Dr. Farr, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Sheridan's History of the late Revolution in Sweden 8vo. £0.5.0.

Sailing & Fighting Signals observed in the navy, cuts colored – £0.2.6.– White's Catalogue 5213
Pennant's Tour through Wales (boards)
Swift's Works, 24 vol. large 8vo. £7.0.0. 1768 &c. White's catal. 6651.
Junii etymologicon Anglicanum, a Lye £1.6.0. White's cat. No. 370.
Montfaucon, Palaeographia Graeca, sive de ortu & progressu Literarum Graecarum £1.7.0. White's cat. 377.

[120] **At a meeting of the Committee, 2 June 1778**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Richard Champion, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Williams's rise & progress of the northern Governments 2 vol. 4to 1–16-0
Tyrrwhit's Glossary to Chaucer.
[Tyrrwhit's] Appendix to Rowley's Works

[121] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 June 1778**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Abraham Elton Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ford.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Claudiani opera, 2 vol. Cater's catal. No. 1259
Fables de la Fontaine – duodecimo Edition
Contes et Nouvelles de la Fontaine 2 vol.
The octavo edition of Clarendon's Rebellion

2. Ordered that Mr. Ford be desired to write to Mr. White to procure a good copy of the best Edition of Dugdale's Monasticon Anglicanum.

[122] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 June 1778**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Pryce on minerals, mines & mining

[123] **At a meeting of the Committee, 14 July 1778**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Ford, Mr. Richard Bright, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Farr.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Philosophical Transactions vol. 67th – part 2d.
Cozens's Principles of Beauty

Randolph's 2 Sermons on the proof of the Christian Religion.
Bateman on Agistment Tithes
Miscellaneous State papers from 1501 to 1726 2 vol. 4to.

Ordered that the Vice President be desired to purchase the Journals of the Lords & Commons in 62 volumes folio, at the price offered and that the Treasurer to issue money accordingly.

[124] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 July 1778**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Sir Joshua Reynolds's Discourses at the Academy
Thomson's Seasons by Aikin
Waddington's Navigation 4to. £0.12.0.

[125] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 August 1778**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Mr. William Milton, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

West's Guide to the Lakes
The Rambler 4 vol.

At a meeting of the Committee, 25 August 1778
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles.

[126] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 September 1778**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford.

At a meeting of the Committee, 22 September 1778
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Ford, Abraham Elton Esq., John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Vertot's Revolution of Portugal
Sentimental Journey through Greece 3 vol. 12mo.

Mr. Ford having reported that he has received a Letter from Mr. Payne bookseller in London informing him that he has procured a good set of Dugdale's Monasticon the price Twenty guineas.

Ordered that Mr. Ford be desired to write to Mr. Payne to order him to send it to the Library by the first conveyance.

[127] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 October 1778**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford, Abraham Elton Esq., Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Davies's examination of the fifteenth & sixteenth chapters of Gibbon's History
Clarke on the Attributes
Butler's Analogy

[128] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 October 1778**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. Ford, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Bishop Hall's Satires, Oxford 1753

[129] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 November 1778**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Abraham Elton Esq., Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq.

Abraham Elton Esq. having presented Campbell's Vitruvius Britannicus in Three volumes folio to this Society, Ordered that the Thanks of The Society be returned to him for the same and that the supplemented volumes be procured as soon as possible.

At a meeting of the Committee, 17 November 1778
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Abraham Elton Esq., Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. Milton, John Merlott Esq.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

The Bishop of London's Isaiah

[130] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 December 1778**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Milton, Mr. Ford, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

At a meeting of the Committee, 15 December 1778
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Mr. Ford, Mr. Joseph Harford, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Anticipation
Chesterfield's miscellaneous works quarto £0.9.0.
Poetical Epistle to an eminent Painter
Tour to the South of Ireland

[131] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 December 1778**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

At a meeting of the Committee, 12 January 1779
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Rev. Mr. William Milton, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Mudge on the Catarrh

[132] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 January 1779**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, John Merlott Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Gibbon's vindication

At a meeting of the Committee, 9 February 1779
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Richard Bright Esq., John Merlott Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Coxe's Letters to Mr. Melmoth on Switzerland

[133] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 February 1779**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ford.

1. Ordered that the following Book be sent for
Forster's Observations on his Voyage 2to

2. Mr. Elton having lately purchased Catesby's natural History of South Carolina, for which he gave £10.15.0. and he having obligingly offered to the Society at the above price.
Resolved that Mr. Elton's offer be accepted with Thanks.

3. Mr. Ford having purchased the following Books
viz Sir Hans Sloane's Nat. history of Jamaica £4.10.0.
Sir Walter Raleigh's History of the world £1.12.0.
Ovid's Metamor. 2 vol. with Picart's cuts £6.6.0.
and having offered them to the Society
Resolved that Mr. Ford's obliging offer be likewise accepted with Thanks.

[134] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 March 1779**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Abraham Elton Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Dr. Plomer, Dr. Farr, Mr. Eagles.

1. Agreed that the General Meeting, to be held on Monday the twenty second of this month, be at the Bush Tavern at six o'clock in the evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending cards to each subscriber, and by putting an Advertisement into the Bristol Gazette, and into Cocking's Saturday paper previous to the General Meeting.[86]

2. Agreed that a List of the present Committee be sent to each Subscriber, along with the summons for the General Meeting, desiring them to make what alterations in it they think proper, and to bring it with them to the General Meeting.

3. Audited the Treasurer's account for the present year, by which it appears that a balance of £3.2.3. remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account.

[135] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 March 1779**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. Dyer, Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. Ford, Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Farr, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Thuani Historia sui temporis
Weales's Christian Orator

2. Resolved that no purchases be made exceeding the annual income, but by the consent of a majority of the whole Committee.

3. Agreed that Dr. Plomer be desired to get what information he can relative to Hollinshead's Chronicle, and to report the same at the next Committee: and if the Dr. cannot procure it for the Library, Resolved it be purchased the first opportunity that offers.

4. Agreed that Mr. Eagles be desired to write to Mr. Garnett to inform the Committee what the best Edition of the Encyclopédie will cost.

[136] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 April 1779**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Eagles, Richard Bright Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Farr.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Orme's History of Indostan
Voyage to new Guinea

[86] See edition n.3 for Bristol's newspapers.

Ordered that Mr. Ford be desired to subscribe to Dr. Franklin's translation of Lucian in the name of the Society.

[137] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 April 1779**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Eagles, Joseph Harford Esq., John Merlott Esq., Dr. Farr.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Sir David Dalrymple's Annals of Scotland
Richardson's Dissertation on the Languages &c. of the Eastern nations with his answer to Bryant
A view of Society and Manners in France, Switzerland & Germany 2 vol. 8vo. £0.10.6.
De la Lande des Canaux de la Navigation A Paris 1777

2. Ordered that Mr. Ford be desired to write to Mr. Payne to procure the supplemental volumes of Vitruvius Britannicus

[138] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 May 1779**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Dyer, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ford, Dr. Farr, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Eagles.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Dalrymple's Collection of voyages
Carver's American Travels
Dalrymple's Travels in Spain & Portugal

2. On inspecting the list of Books ordered, the following not having been procured, Mr. Ford who is going to London is desired to purchase such of them as he can meet with

Supplement Vitruvius Britannicus
Farneworth's Life of Pope Sixtus
Walpole's Catalogue of Royal & Noble Authors not the Strawberry full Edition
Furneaux's Letters to Blackstone
Birch's Biographical works
Lardner on the credibility of the gospels
Ducarel on Endowments.
Bishop Hall's Satires
Campbell's Lives of the Admirals

[139] 3. Agreed that Mr. Ford be also desired to subscribe for Byrn's Plates[87] in the name of the Society, and to order those numbers which are already published to be sent to the Library.

[87] *Antiquities of Great-Britain, Illustrated in Views of Monasteries, Castles, and Churches, Now Existing*, published in ten numbers between 1778 and 1786.

At a meeting of the Committee, 18 May 1779
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Abraham Elton Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Dyer, John Deverell Esq., Mr. Ford.

Ordered that Mr. Ford be desired to write to Mr. Robson for Fontaine's Tables in folio and to
Mr. Elmsly for the three numbers of the voyage picturesque de la Grece, and to send the following numbers as they come out.

[140] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 June 1779**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Farr, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford

Ordered that this Society subscribe for Dr. Farr's Edition of the History of Epidemics by Hippocrates.

At a meeting of the Committee, 15 June 1779
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Richard Bright Esq., Dr. Farr, Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Dyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Philosophical Transactions vol. 68 part 1st.
Arnot's [*sic*] History of Edinburgh

[141] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 June 1779**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Farr, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer, Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq.

Ordered that Henshal's [*sic*] plan of all the canals made or now making in England be sent for.

At a meeting of the Committee, 13 July 1779
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Farr, Dr. Plomer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Lady M. W. Montague's Letters
Linnaei amoenitates academicae

[142] **At a meeting of the Committee, 27 July 1779**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Richard Bright Esq., John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford, Dr. Farr, Joseph Harford Esq.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Priestley on Air vol. 4th

At a meeting of the Committee, 10 August 1779
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford.

1. Ordered that the new Edition of Chambers's Dictionary publishing in numbers, of which 15 are already received, be continued.

2. Anthony Palmer Collings Esq., Residency Legatee of the late Daniel Harson Esq., continues, the said Daniel Harson's Subscription as Residuary Legatee, and has entered his name in the subscription Book.

3. Ordered that the Thanks of the Committee in behalf of the Society be given to Mr. [Francis] Ward for his Present of the fourth volume of Monde Primitif analyse and comparé avec le monde modern par M. Court de Gebelin.

[143] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 August 1779**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford.

[144] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 September 1779**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Knox's Essays 2 vol. 8vo.
Swinburne's Travels

2. Ordered that the Thanks of the Committee in behalf of the Society be given to Mr. Edmund Rack[88] for his Present of his Mentor's Letters, and Poems on several subjects.

3. Ordered that Mr. Becket be desired to subscribe in the name of the Society for the Edition of Sir Isaac Newton's works 4 vol. 4$^{to.}$ now publishing by Dr. Horsley.

At a meeting of the Committee, 5 October 1779
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Dyer, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Baretti's Travels 8vo.

[145] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 October 1779**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton.

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[88] Edmund Rack (1735?–87), poet and pamphleteer, and the moving spirit of the Bath Philosophical Society. See Jude Harris (ed.), *The Journal of Edmund Rack: An Enlightenment Gentleman's Observations of Georgian Bath* (Bath, 2018).

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Burney's History of Music vol. 2d.
Letters to the Bishop of London
Columella by Greaves

[146] **At a meeting of the Committee, 2 November 1779**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, The Rev. Mr. William Milton, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Life of Alexander the 6th by Gordon
First Lines of the Practice of Physick by Dr. Cullen 2 vol.
Archaeologia vol. 5th
Rudder's History of Gloucestershire

[147] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 November 1779**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Abraham Elton Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for, and that Mr. Ford be desired to write to Mr. Benjamin White Bookseller in London to procure good copies

Knorr Testes Diluvii
Olivet's Cicero, The Paris Edition

Ordered that The Thanks of The Society be given to Abraham Elton Esq. for his valuable present of Thucydides de Bello Peloponnesiaco á Wasse et Dukero, Folio.

[148] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 November 1779**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Dyer, Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Richard Bright Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

The Countess Du Barry's Letters
Eden's Letters

At a meeting of the Committee, 14 December 1779
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. John Camplin, John Merlott Esq.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Thicknesse's Tour 2 vol. 8vo

[149] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 December 1779**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford, Joseph Harford Esq., John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles.

At a meeting of the Committee, 11 January 1780
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Richard Bright Esq., John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Ingen-Housz's experiments on vegetables 8vo £0.5.0.
Nautical Ephemeris for 1780 –
Moliere's Works, French and English, 10 vol. £1.10.0. White's catalogue No. 6525.

[150] **At a meeting of the Committee, 25 January 1780**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Richard Bright Esq., Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Dyer.

Ordered that the Thanks of the Society be given to P. Thickenesse Esq. for the Present of his Treatise on the Art of Deciphering.

At a meeting of the Committee, 8 February 1780
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Duke of Berwick's Memoirs
Principles of Harrison's watch
An account of the going of Harrison's watch
Cavallo's Treatise on Electricity

[151] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 February 1780**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Mr. Dyer, Dr. Plomer.

1. Ordered that the Thanks of the Committee in behalf of the Society be given to Mr. Dyer for his valuable Present of Holinshed's Chronicle.

2. Ordered that a List of the Books brought into the Library since the 25th of March 1778 be printed by the next General Meeting.

[152] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 March 1780**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Rev. Mr. William Milton, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Dyer, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford.

1. Agreed that the next General Meeting, usually held the Monday next preceding Lady Day, be this year, on account of the Assizes, holden on Tuesday the 14th of this month at the Bush-Tavern at six o'clock in the evening; and that the Librarian give note of the same by sending cards to each Subscriber, and by putting an advertisement into the Bristol Gazette, and into Cocking's paper of the next Saturday.

2. Agreed that a List of the present committee be sent to each Subscriber, along with the Summons for the General Meeting, desiring them to make alterations in it they think proper, and to bring it with them to the General Meeting.

3. Mrs. Catherine Dyer,[89] Executrix to her Sister the late Mrs. Ann Williams, has transferred her Sister's Property in the Library to Mr. Thomas Rycroft;[90] and Mrs. Farrell has transferred her late Husband's share[91] to the Rev. Mr. Broughton.[92]

[153] 4. Mr. Robert Duckinfield[93] has transferred his Property in the Library to Mr. Jeremiah Hill[94] Jr, Henry Pater[95] to Nathaniel Foy Esq. Alderman[96], Mr. John Innys Baker[97] to the Rev. Mr. Slade Baker,[98] Mr. Philip George[99] to Mr. Nehemiah Bartley,[100] Mr. John Powell Jr[101] to the Rev. Mr. Yeatman,[102] Mr. Neufville[103] to Mr. John Gresley Jr,[104] Mr. Joseph Coates[105] to his son Mr. William Coates,[106] and Mr. Thomas Flower[107] to Mr. John Sage.[108]

5. Audited the Treasurer's account for the present year, by which it appears that a Balance of £8.10.0 remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account.

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[89] There are several Dyers in *Directory 1775,* but this is likely a reference to the wife of William Dyer, who served on the library committee in 1779–91.
[90] Frequent user of the library.
[91] There are two victuallers under the name of Farrell in *Bristol Directory 1775*.
[92] Presumably Rev. Thomas Broughton (d. 1812), rector of St Peter's Church between 1781 and 1812, Bristol, who became a committee member of the library from 1785.
[93] From a prominent merchant family in Bristol.
[94] Merchant, partner with William Reeve and Andrew Reeve. Steward of the Bristol Marine Society.
[95] Linen draper and haberdasher in Wine Street.
[96] Brewer and local office holder, including mayor of Bristol in 1772.
[97] Linen draper who signed an address of thanks to Lord Clare in 1775. Voted in Gloucestershire's county election in 1776.
[98] Clerk civilian, Oxford. Member of the Steadfast Society and President of the Wykehamists, i.e., the past and present members of Winchester College. Slade Baker and Son were linen drapers.
[99] Porter brewer in Queen Square and Bath Street.
[100] Distiller, vinegar maker and cider merchant in Temple Street.
[101] Indeterminate with four John Powells in *Directory 1775*, none which is styled 'Jr'. However, there is a John Powell in the Steadfast Society, and it is likely to be the same person.
[102] Rev. Henry Farr Yeatman (d. 1797), Rector at Klive between 1784 and 1797. BA from Balliol, Oxford.
[103] Edward Neufville, Merchant in 12 Queen Square.
[104] Merchant in 30 Queen Square, and member of the Steadfast Society.
[105] Wine merchant in 6 Corn Street.
[106] Banker and 'gentleman'. Member of the Park Street Club and the Friends of the Peace (i.e., a Foxite Whig).
[107] Woollen draper in 2 St. James's Square. Frequent user of the library.
[108] Most likely the 'gentleman' from St. James listed in *Poll Book 1781*. There is also a shipwright in the same poll book.

[154] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 March 1780**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Camplin, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Abraham Elton Esq., Mr. Dyer, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Leland's Itinerary – last edition
Horne's (Dr.) Sermons 2 vol. 8vo.
Blair's Sermons vol. 2d.

[155] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 April 1780**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Rev. Mr. William Milton, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Sallustii Opera 4to. Delph.
Velleius Paterculus 4to. Delph.
Observations on Johnson's Journey to the Hebrides
Love and Madness
Bp. Newcombe's Harmony of the Gospels.

[156] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 April 1780**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Dyer, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Livius in usum Delphini 6 vol. 4to. Paris. from Mr. White
Lardner on Heretics 4to.
Letters on Iceland 8vo.
Young's Tour in Ireland
Chalmers's political Annals of the united Colonies

[157] **At a meeting of the Committee, 2 May 1780**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. John Camplin.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Coxe's Account of the Russian Discoveries
Gen. Burgoyne's account of the Canada Expedition with Plans &c.

[158] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 May 1780**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Dyer.

Ordered to be sent for

Eden's 5th. Letter
Garrick's Memoirs by Davies
Sauvage's nosologia methodical

Being informed that Mr. B. White Bookseller in London has now by him a good copy of The Encyclopaedie which he can afford to sell on very reasonable Terms, Resolved that it be purchased for this Society, and that Mr. Ford be desired to write to Mr. White to send the same to the Library.

[159] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 May 1780**
Present: The Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, The Rev. Mr. William Milton, The Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer, Dr. Plomer

Ordered to be sent for

The Appendix to Pennant's Tour in Scotland

At a meeting of the Committee, 13 June 1780
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Ford, The Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered to be sent for

Higgin's Experiments on cement £0.5.0.
Idler

[160] **At a meeting of the Committee, 27 June 1780**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Cullen's nosologia methodica
The Wills of the Kings of England from the Conquest to Henry 7th and the Will of Henry VII

Mr. Becket is desired to procure Dr. Franklin's Translation of Lucian which was subscribed for at Mr. Cadell's in London in the name of the Bristol Library Society.

[161] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 July 1780**
Present: Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Irwin's voyage up the Red Sea 4to. £0.15.0.
Dodsley's collection of Old Plays, just published, 10 vol.

Agreed that the Librarian be desired to get what Information he can relative to Oxonia Illustrata, and to report the same at the next Committee.

[162] **At a meeting of the Committee, 25 July 1780**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq., Mr. Garnett, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer.

At a meeting of the Committee, 8 August 1780
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Dillon's Travels thro' Spain 4to.
Supplement to Johnson's & Steevens's Shakespeare's Plays 2 vol. 8vo.

[163] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 August 1780**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Richard Bright Esq., John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Hayley's Essay on History addressed to Ed. Gibbon Esq.

At a meeting of the Committee, 5 September 1780
Present: John Merlott Esq., Mr. Garnett, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles.

[164] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 September 1780**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Richard Champion, Richard Bright Esq., John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Luciani Opera, notis variorum et Graecii &c.
Anthologia 8vo. vol. 12mo. Gr. et Lat.

At a meeting of the Committee, 3 October 1780
Present: Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. John Garnett, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. William Milton, John Merlott Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Francklin's Sophocles
Recueil des Tables Astronomiques &c.
Philosophical Transactions vol. 69. part 2d.

[165] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 October 1780**

Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Garnett, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Evans's Poetry of the Welsh Bards

At a meeting of the Committee, 31 October 1780
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq., Mr. Dyer, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Joseph Harford Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Sir William Howe's Narrative
Lettres Physiques & Morales par J. A. De Luc
Nichols's Select Collection of Poems 4 vol.

[166] **At a meeting of the Committee, 14 November 1780**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Munckley, John Merlott Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Garnett, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry.

Ordered that the following Book

Jortin's Life of Erasmus 2 vol. 4to.

[167] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 November 1780**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Garnett, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Observations made in a Tour thro' England Scotland & Wales.
The fourth Volume of Walpole's Anecdotes of Painting
Ordered that Smeathman's Voyages and Travels in Africa and the West Indies 2 vol. 4to. be subscribed for.

[168] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 December 1780**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Rev. Dr. Camplin, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer, John Merlott Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Moore's View of Society &c. in Italy 2 vol.
Coxe's account of the Prisons in Russia
Blackwall's Introduction to the Classics
Goldsmith's Poetical works

[169] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 December 1780**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Garnett, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Smollett's Don Quixote
Ben Johnson's Works by Whalley

[170] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 January 1781**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Dyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Select Tragedies of Euripides 8vo.
The Annual Register for 1779
The Nautical Ephemeris for 1781
Reveries of the Art of War by Count Saxe
Symes's Treatise on the Military Science

[171] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 January 1781**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Wood's Institutes of the Common Law
Whatley upon Gardening
Farquhar's Works

At a meeting of the Committee, 6 February 1781
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford, The Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Knox on Liberal Education
Johnson's Biography of the Poets
Warton's 3d. volume on English Poetry
Chinese Spy translated from the French

[172] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 February 1781**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, The Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Dyer, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Giannone's Civil History of the Naples 2 vol. fol. White's Catal. No. 667
Colley Cibber's Dramatick & other works

[173] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 March 1781**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, The Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Dyer, The Rev. Dr. Camplin, Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles.

1. Agreed that the General Meeting, to be held on Monday the 19th of this month, be at the Bush Tavern at six o'clock in the evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending cards to each subscriber, and by putting an advertisement into the Bristol Gazette, and into Cocking's Saturday paper, previous to the General Meeting.

2. Agreed that the List of the present committee be sent to each Subscriber, along with the summons for the General Meeting, desiring them to make what attentions in it they think proper, and to bring it with them to the General Meeting.

3. The Rev. Mr. Aaron Baker[109] has transferred his Property in the Library to the Rev. Mr. Richard Jones,[110] Nathaniel Foy Esq. Alderman to Dr. Arthur Broughton, Mr. Garnsey[111] to the Rev. Mr. William Ireland,[112] Mr. John Champion[113] to Capt. Herring[114] and Mrs. Scrafton,[115] her late Husband's share, to William Berkin Jr[116]

4. Audited the Treasurer's account for the present year, by which it appears that a balance of £18.18.6. remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account.

[174] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 March 1781**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. Dr. Camplin, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, The Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ford, The Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Garnett, John Merlott Esq., Joseph Harford Esq.

1. Resolved that no purchases be made exceeding the annual income but by the consent of a majority of the whole committee. vide General Meeting Book folio 11.

2. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Sherlock's English Traveller 2 vol.
Beaumont & Fletcher's Plays 10 vol. with plates, last Edition.

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[109] Probably the vicar of Altarnun and prebendary of Exon; see John Collinson, *The History and Antiquities of the County of Somerset* (3 vols., London, 1791), III, p. 35. Subscriber to John Warneford, *Sermons on Several Subjects and Occasions* (Oxford, 1776).
[110] Vicar of Charfield, Gloucestershire, and fellow of Jesus College, Oxford.
[111] William Garnsey, in 28 Corn Street.
[112] Most likely Rev. William Ireland (d. 1813), curate of Little Birch near Hereford. BA and MA from St John's College, Oxford. *CCEd*.
[113] Merchant in College Green. Warden of the Merchant Venturers in 1776. A relative of Richard Champion, who left Bristol at this time.
[114] Possibly the husband of Ann Herring, house-upholsterer in 17 Trinity Street.
[115] Wife of Richard Scrafton, Esq. (d. 1780).
[116] 'Gentleman' in Clifton Hill.

Monboddo's Origin of language vol. 2d. & 3d.
The remaining volumes of Van Swieten's Commentaries
Rushworth's Historical collection 8 vol. from White's Catalogue no. 828.

[175] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 April 1781**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Rev. Mr. Collinson, The Rev. Dr. Camplin, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, The Rev. Mr. William Milton, The Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Raynal on the Revolution in America
A Treatise on Chemistry by Watson 2 vol.
Triumph on Temper by Hayley
Smith's Galic Antiquities 4to.
Mackenzie's Charts
To subscribe for Gutch's Collectanea Curiosa

[176] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 April 1781**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, John Merlott Esq., Richard Bright Esq., The Rev. Mr. Collinson

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Miscellanies by Barrington
Cronsted's [*sic*] Mineralogy 8vo. £0.6.0.

[177] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 May 1781**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, The Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Harford Esq., The Rev. Mr. William Milton, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, The Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Divine Benevolence by Dr. Balguy
Blackstone's Reports of cases
Henry's 4th volume

Agreed that Richard Bright Esq. be desired to get what Information he can relative to Mrs. Blackwell's Herbal.

[178] **At a meeting of the Committee, 15 May 1781**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer, The Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Lightfoot's Flora Scotica £0.15.0.
Apulleii opera – Paris Edit. Delph. (Mr. White)

[179] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 May 1781**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Mr. Eagles, John Merlott Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Ford, The Rev. Mr. Collinson, Dr. Plomer, The Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Agreed that Mr. Robson be written to by Mr. Ford for a good copy of Mrs. Blackwell's Herbal.

Ordered

Potter's Euripides
Kennet's Antiquities
Dr. E. Young's works 12o. £0.15.0.

[180] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 June 1781**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer.

Ordered

Loose hints upon Education by Lord Kaimes
Essays upon the Principles of morality & natural Religion
Monro's works 2to.
Mirror for magistrates White
Gower de confessione amantis [White]

[181] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 June 1781**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Munckley, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Johnson's Lives of the Poets in 4 vol. 8vo.
Bruce's First Principles of Philosophy 8vo. £0.2.6.

[182] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 July 1781**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, The Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. Munckley, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Henry's Account of the method of preserving Water
Whitehurst's Theory of the Earth 4to.
Harris's Philological Inquiries 2 vol.
Dr. Bever's History of the legal Polity of the Roman State 4to
Wyndham's Tour through Monmouthshire &c.
Pennant's Snowdon
State & behaviours of the English Catholics 8vo. £0.2.6.
Dr. Priestley's Letters to a Philosophical Unbeliever
Pultney's Review of the works of Linnaeus

[183] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 July 1781**
Present: Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Richard Bright Esq.

At a meeting of the Committee, 7 August 1781
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. Eagles, A. Elton Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Jones's Physiological Disquisitions 4o.
Soirées Helvetians
Stuart's Antiquities of Athens

[184] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 August 1781**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq.

At a meeting of the Committee, 4 September 1781
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer.

[185] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 September 1781**
Present: Richard Bright Esq., John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Dyer, Dr. Plomer, Mr. John Garnett

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Emerson's Mechanics 4to.
Brandt's Select Dissertations from the amoenitates academicae vol. 1.
Lister's Synopsis Conchyliorum, by Huddersford £3.13.6.
Buncle's Life
Howlett's Examination of Dr. Price's Essay on the Population of England &c.
Wood's Athenae Oxonienses 2 vol. best Edition £1.15.0. White's catalogue No. 902.
Raii Historia Plantarum generalis 3 vol. Lond. 1693. £3.3.0. White's catalogue No. 592.

[186] **At a meeting of the Committee, 2 October 1781**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. John Garnett, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Monboddo's Ancient metaphysics 4to. £0.16.0.
Private Life of Lewis XV 4 vol. 8vo.
Necker's Finances of France, a translation
Philosophical Transactions vol. 7. part 1st.

2. Agreed to purchase a select collection of the Political Pamphlets that have been published relative to American affairs.

[187] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 October 1781**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

[188] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 October 1781**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, John Merlott Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Garnett, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books [*sic*] be sent for

Massinger's Dramatic works last Edition

[189] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 November 1781**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, John Merlott Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Garnett, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Keate's short account of the antient History, present Government &c. of Geneva £0.3.0. Dodsley 1761.
Dr. Fothergill's Works, with his Life &c. by Elliot.
Late Lord Lyttelton's Letters
Illustrations of Euripides by Jodrell 2 vol. 8vo.
Elliot's account of the mineral waters of Great Britain & Ireland with the artificial method of making them 8vo.

[190] **At a meeting of the Committee, 27 November 1781**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Dr. Plomer, The Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Garnett, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Precedents of Proceedings in the House of Commons by Hatsel [*sic*]

[191] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 December 1781**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer, John Merlott Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Garnett, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Observations on the Poems attributed to Rowley, by Jacob Bryant Esq.
Dr. Milles's Edition of Rowley's Poems 4to.
Chatterton's Miscellanies
Observations on the Poems attributed to Rowley
The Eleventh volume of the State Trials
Mr. Ford is desired to write to Mr. Hayes Bookseller in London for the Price of Morrison's Historia Oxoniensis

Ordered that this Committee be adjourned to this day three weeks.

[192] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 January 1782**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Martin's Virgil 2 vol. 4to.
Wilson on the Influence of Climate on Animal and vegetable bodies 8vo.
Lye's Saxon Dictionary by Manning 2 vol. folio
Priestley's Disquisitions relating to Matter & Spirit.
Penrose's Poems

[193] **At a meeting of the Committee, 15 January 1782**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Garnett, Joseph Harford Esq., John Merlott Esq., Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Gordon's Life of Pope Alexander the 6th in Strahan's Catalogue No. 189.
Old Plays & Mysteries, Moralities &c. 3 vol. in Lockyer Davis's Catalogue No. 7971.
76 modern Pamphlets political &c. 7 vol. £0.14.0. No. 8402 in Lockyer Davis's Catalogue.

The Rev. Dr. Wilson[117] having presented the works of the late Bishop of Sodor & Man to this Society, Ordered that the Thanks of the Society be given Dr. Wilson for the same.

[194] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 January 1782**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Mr. Collinson, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. Ford, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Dr. Camplin, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Dunbar's Essay on the History of Mankind
Nautical Ephemeris for 1782.
Essay on the Writings & Genius of Pope vol. 2d.
Evans's collection of Old Ballads 2 vol.
Pococke's Travels 2 vol. £2.2.0.

[195] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 February 1782**

[117] Thomas Wilson (1703–84), resident in Bath, and patron of Catharine Macaulay in the 1770s. He was the son of Thomas Wilson (1663–1755), Bishop of Sodor and Man between 1697 and 1755, and author of the works donated.

Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Dyer, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Garnett, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Churchill's Collection of voyages 8 vol. Payne's Catalogue
Ammianus Marcellinus a Gronovio 4to. £0.18.0. White's Catal. No. 1386.
Suetonii opera, Pitisci, 2 vol. 1714 £1.5.0. White No. 1490
Shaftesbury's Characteristics 3 vol. 8vo.
The Mirror 3 vol. Edinburgh.

[196] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 February 1782**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Dr. Camplin, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Harford Esq., John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Garnett, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Smollett's Don Quixote 12mo.
Lettsom on Tea 4to.
Morgagni de causis morborum, ab Alexandro 3 vol.
Boyle's works by Birch 6 vol. No. 940 Haye's Catalogue £4.14.6.
An Essay on Tune
Borlase's History of the Scilly Islands
Gibson's Codex 2 vol. fol.
Psalmanazar's Description of the Island of Formosa

Ordered that Cook's voyage 3 vol. 4to. be subscribed for, and that Mr. Cadell Bookseller in London be written to for that purpose.

Ordered that Mr. Elmsly Bookseller in London be desired to subscribe in the name of the Society for the octavo edition of Voltaire's works now publishing in France under the direction of Mr. Beaumarchais, price £15.15.0.

[197] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 March 1782**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Dr. Camplin, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford, Mr. John Garnett, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

1. Agreed that the General Meeting to be held on Monday the 18th of this month, be at the Bush Tavern at six o'clock in the evening precisely; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending cards to each Subscriber, and by putting an advertisement into the Bristol Gazette; and into Cocking's paper of the next Saturday.

2. Lady Lippincott has transferred her late husband's[118] Property in the Library to Mr. Crespin;[119] and Michael Miller Esq.[120] his late son's share to John Vaughan Esq.[121]

3. John Cooke Esq.[122] has transferred his Property in the Library to his son the Rev. Mr. John Cooke,[123] Mr. John Nicholas[124] to the Rev. Mr. [Samuel] Seyer, Dr. Farr to the Rev. Mr. Watson,[125] and Mr. George Gibbs[126] to Mr. Francis Gold.[127]

4. Audited the Treasurer's account for the present year, by which it appears that a Balance of £7.14.6. remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account.

[198] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 March 1782**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Very Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Dyer, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Broughton, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Battie's Treatise on Madness 4to.
The Jesuit's Perspective
Warton's Inquiry into the authenticity of Rowley's Poems.
Smollett's Don Quixote in Quarto.

2. Resolved that no purchases be made exceeding the annual Income but by the consent of a majority of the whole committee. vide General Meeting Book folio 11.

3. Agreed that each Person taking a Book out of the Library enter his name in the Register; that every Subscriber who wants a Book send a written order signed with his name and dated; and that the Librarian shall not permit any Book to be taken out of the Library contrary to this regulation.

4. Agreed that each Member of the Committee pay £0.12.0. on his first appearance at the Committee towards the expence of providing Tea and Coffee.

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[118] Sir Henry Lippincott (1737–80), MP for Bristol in 1780. Died shortly after taking up his seat. Stood unsuccessfully for the county of Gloucestershire in 1776.
[119] Daniel Crespin (d. 1789), Clifton. He was styled as 'Esq.' when his death was reported in *The World* on 30 May 1789, which is an indication of gentry status and land ownership.
[120] Merchant in 15 Queen Square, and Mayor of Bristol in 1779. Voted in Gloucestershire's county election in 1776 as an owner of 'gunpowder works'; see *Gloucestershire Poll Book 1776*, p. 13.
[121] Merchant in 1 Clifton Hill, and member of the Steadfast Society. From a major commercial family in the city.
[122] 'Gentleman' in 23 Day Street, Cathay. Voted in Gloucestershire's county election in 1776 as an owner of house and land in his own right rather than as a tenant; *see Gloucestershire Poll Book 1776,* p. 142.
[123] Clergyman in Lodge Street.
[124] Possibly a tailor listed in *Directory 1775,* or a glass-bottle manufacturer listed in *Directory 1793–4*.
[125] Rev. Robert Watson, curate at Bristol St John the Baptist and Bristol St Thomas, and later vicar of Bristol Temple. Educated at Trinity, Oxford. *CCEd*.
[126] George Gibbs (1753–1818), merchant.
[127] Francis Gold (1744–1830), apothecary in Christ Church. Member of the White Lion Club and the Catch Club.

[199] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 April 1782**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., John Merlott Esq., Mr. Dyer, Dr. Broughton, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Smollett's Don Quixote in 4to. White.
Anderson's observations on national Industry 4to. £0.18.0.
Cumberland's account of the Spanish Painters £0.5.0.
La Voisier's Essays physical & literary 3 vol. 8vo. £0.18.0.
Ovidii opera. Delph. White.
Herodotus, A Wesseling. folio. White.

[200] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 April 1782**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Dr. Camplin, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Dr. Broughton, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Saunderson's Algebra, 2 vol. 4to.
The last Edition of Lord Bacon's works 4to.
Scriptores Rei Rusticae

2. Mr. Ford to answer Mr. White's Letter in the affirmative.

[201] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 May 1782**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Ford, Joseph Harford Esq., John Merlott Esq., John Garnett Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Recherches sur les modifications de l'atmosphere par monSr De Luc.
The World
Ferber's Travels through Italy translated by Raspe 8vo.
Ramazzini on the diseases of Tradesmen
Archaeological Epistle
Curtis's Flora Londinensis Coloured; all the numbers already published, and to be continued.

[202] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 May 1782**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Mr. Eagles, Dr. Broughton, John Garnett Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Dyer, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bishop Newton's Works 3 vol. 4to.
Zimmermann on experience in Physic 2 vol. 8vo.
Gast's History of Greece
Born's Travels into Hungary
The Connoisseur
Williamson's Euclid
Essay on the nature and existence of a material world.
Hales's Vegetable Statics 2 vol. last Edition
Donne's Satires

[203] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 June 1782**
Present: John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Dyer, Dr. Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Emma a Poem by John Abbot of St. Augustine's in Bristol
Burnaby Greene's Pamphlet on Rowley inscribed with a Sonnet to the Rt. Rev. the Bishop of Dromore
Winkelmann's history of the fine arts among the ancients, translated by M. Huber, 3 vol. 4to.
Memoirs of Peter Henry Bruce.

[204] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 June 1782**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Dyer, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Broughton, Mr. Eagles.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Weever's Funeral monuments 2to. last Edition
Alexander's History of women – if an Edition in 8vo., not otherwise

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Committee be given to Dr. Broughton for the valuable presents he has lately made the Society.

[205] **At a meeting of the Committee, 2 July 1782**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Broughton, Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Burney's second volume of the history of Musick
Rowlands's mona antiqua Restaurata
Collections for the History of Worcestershire by Nash
Cavallo on air

[206] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 July 1782**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Mr. William Milton, John Merlott Esq., Dr. Broughton, Mr. Eagles

At a meeting of the Committee, 30 July 1782
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Mr. Ford, Dr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Nash's Collections for the History of Worcestershire
Pennant's Tour from Chester to London
Ld. Monboddo's Antient Metaphysics vol. 2d.
Bentham's History of the Cathedral of Ely
Watson's Chemical Essays vol. 3d.
Brady's Introduction to the old English history
Silii Italici opera, á Drakenborch 4to.

[207] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 August 1782**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Dr. Broughton, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Dyer.

At a meeting of the Committee, 27 August 1782
Present: John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer, Dr. Plomer, Dr. Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Armstrong's Miscellanies 2 vol. 8vo.
Bishop of Bristol's Tracts
Macaulay's History of England 5 vol. 8vo.
Barbut's Genera Insectorum, with coloured Plates, White's Catal. No. 2143
Ellis on Corallines White's Catal. No. 2183.
Tyrwhitt's vindication of the appendix &c.

[208] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 September 1782**
Present: Richard Bright Esq., Dr. Broughton, Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles.

At a meeting of the Committee, 24 September 1782
Present: Dr. Plomer, Dr. Broughton, Mr. Ford, John Garnett Esq., Mr. Eagles

[209] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 October 1782**
Present: The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop, President, The Rev. Dr. Casberd, Vice President, Richard Bright Esq., The Very Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], The Rev. Dr. Camplin, Mr. Dyer, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Erskine's Translation of Gaubius's Institutions of Medical Pathology 8vo. £0.4.0.
Cadell
Hayley's Poem on Epic Poetry
Malton's Appendix
Cudworth's true intellectual System of the Universe Birch's Edition 2 vol. 4to. £1.1.0.
Baxter's Treatise upon the immortality of the Soul 8vo. £0.7.0.

Sacred Dramas, by Miss More 8vo. £0.5.0.
Strange's Reports 2 vol. folio £3.0.0.
Almada Hill a Poem by Mickle
Chillingworth's works 10th edition 1742 £0.18.0.
Jacob's Law Dictionary folio last Edition

The Reverend Dr. Warton[128] having presented his Essay on the Writings and Genius of Pope to this Society, Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Rev. Dr. Warton for the same.

[210] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 October 1782**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford, Dr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Dyer.

[211] **At a meeting of the Committee, 5 November 1782**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Broughton, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Dyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Lettres familieres de M. Winkelmann 2 vol. 8vo.
Letters by an American Farmer
Observations on our Lord's Conduct by the Bishop of Waterford
Smellie's Translation of Buffon's Natural History 6 vol. 8vo.
Nicholson's Introduction to Natural Philosophy

[212] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 November 1782**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, John Merlott Esq., Joseph Harford Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Kennett's Parochial Antiquities concern[in]g Ambrosden & Burcester in Oxfordshire
Aikin's Treatise on Hospitals

[213] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 December 1782**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Richard Bright Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., John Merlott Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Nummorum veterum Populorum et Urbium in Museo G. Hunter M. D. Asservatorum descriptio. Londini – 1 vol. 4to. £2.15.0.
Observations on the 3 first volumes of the History of English Poetry £0.2.6.
Nichol's Biographical & literary anecdotes of Bowyer £1.1.0.
Instructions d'un Pere a ses Enfans par Abr. Trembley Tom. 3. 4 & 5.

[128] Joseph Warton (1722–1800), poet, literary critic and headmaster of Winchester College.

[214] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 December 1782**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. the Dean [John Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Joseph Harford Esq., John Merlott Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

De Fontenelle's conversations on the Plurality of worlds.
Davila's history of the Civil Wars in France 2 vol. 4to.
Tableau de Paris 4 vol.

[215] **At a meeting of the Committee, 31 December 1782**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Dyer, John Merlott Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bentham's History of the Cathedral of Ely £3.3.0.
Aaron Hill's works 3 vol. 8vo. £1.0.0.
Ordered that Mr. Gutch's Edition of Wood's history of Oxford be subscribed for £1.1.0.

[216] **At a meeting of the Committee, 14 January 1783**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Joseph Harford Esq., John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica No. 2 pt. 3. & the preceding parts
The Commissioner's accounts, published by the Secretary.
Mathias on Rowley's Poems
Bibliotheca Croftsiana £0.5.0.

[217] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 January 1783**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

At a meeting of the Committee, 11 February 1783
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bergman Opuscula physica et chemical 2 vol. 8vo.
Baxter on the Soul 8vo. £0.7.0.
Archaeologia vol. 6d.
Sir Henry Clinton's narrative of his Conduct in 1781
Earl Cornwallis's answer of the above

The Genuine Copy of a Letter found November 5 1782 near Strawberry Hill £0.1.0. Copperplates of Machines &c. by the Society for the encouragement of arts &c. price £3.13.6. White's catal.

[218] **At a meeting of the Committee, 25 February 1783**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Dyer.

[219] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 March 1783**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ford, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Jortin's Life of Erasmus 2 vol. 4to.
Hickesii Linguar: vet: Sept: Thesaurus 2 vol. £4.4.0. in White's Catal. No. 164.

2. Agreed that the General Meeting to be held on Monday the 24th of this month be at the Bush Tavern at 6 o'clock in the Evening precisely; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending cards to each Subscriber, and by putting an advertisement into the Bristol Gazette and into Cocking's paper immediately preceding the General Meeting.

3. John Merlott Esq. has transferred the Property which his late uncle, Morgan Smith Esq.[129] Alderman, had in the Bristol Library Society to Miss Margaret French.[130]

4. Sir Abraham Elton has transferred his Property in the Library to James Kirkpatrick Esq.[131]
John Crofts Esq.[132] to Dr. Colin Drummond[133]
Rev. Mr. Yeatman to the Rev. Mr. Thomas Bere[134]
Rev. Mr. William Ireland to Mr. Michael Clayfield[135]
Rev. Mr. John Cooke to the Rev. Mr. William Jones[136]

5. Audited the Treasurer's account for the present year, by which it appears that a balance of £3.10.6. remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account.

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[129] Morgan Smith (d. 1781 or 1782), sugar baker. Alderman and member of the Common Council in Bristol since 1735. Mayor in 1754. Resided at 78 Lewin's Mead, next door to Alderman William Barnes.
[130] Untraced. Not an uncommon name in Bristol.
[131] (d. 1787 or 1788). Brother of Sarah Bovet and brother-in-law of John H. Bovet. Since he does not appear to have been an office holder, 'Esq.' is an indication of gentry status and land ownership.
[132] Common councilman and mayor of Bristol in 1785. Voted in Gloucestershire's county election in 1776 as an owner of messuage and a warehouse in his own right rather than as a tenant; see *Gloucestershire Poll Book 1776*, p. 5.
[133] Dr. Colin Drummond (1727–95), physician, who joined his brother at the Bristol Royal Infirmary in 1770. Presbyterian. Resided at 44 Queen Square.
[134] Thomas Bere (d. 1814), rector of Butcombe in Somerset between 1781 and 1814. BA from Jesus College, Oxford. *CCEd*.
[135] Michael Clayfield, distiller, and husband of library member Mary Clayfield. Member of the Steadfast Society.
[136] Possibly the curate of Staunton on Arrow in 1783, and member of the Steadfast Society.

[220] **At a meeting of the Committee, 25 March 1783**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Mr. Eagles, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ford.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Errors of the Church of Rome detected, by Smith
Chalmers's Estimate of the comparative Strength of Great Britain 4to. £0.5.0.
Lucan's Pharsalia by Rowe 2 vol. 12mo.

2. Resolved that no purchases be made exceeding the Annual Income but by the consent of a majority of the whole committee. vide General Meeting Book folio 11.

3. Mr. George Catcott having presented 3 volumes of Tracts, and the Exercises at the Grammar School of Bristol to this Society,[137] Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. George Catcott for the same.

[221] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 April 1783**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Dossie's Memoirs of agriculture &c. 3 vol. 8vo.
Vertot's Revolutions of Rome – White's Catalogue No. 4705
Bishop of Landaff's [*sic*] Letter
Potter's Euripides 2d. vol.

[222] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 April 1783**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford, Joseph Harford Esq., John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Swinburne's Travels into the two Sicilies
Roman History by Adam Ferguson
Plautus, Delphini 2 vol. 4to. White
Caesaris opera quae exstraut, Delph: [White]
Day's Map of Somersetshire
Taylor's Map of Gloucestershire

[223] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 May 1783**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, John Merlott Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles.

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[137] This refers to *The Exercises Performed at a Visitation of the Grammar-School of Bristoll, on Thursday the 7th of April, MDCCXXXVII. To Which are Added, Verses on the Grammar-School, Spoken at a Former Visitation. Publish'd by A.S. Catcott, Master of the Said School* (Bristol, 4to ed., 1737), by George Catcott's father, Alexander Stopforth Catcott.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica No. 6 part 2d. & numbers 9 & 10.
Moallakatt [i.e. moallakát] or 7 Arabian Poems translated by Sir William Jones – Elmsly £0.10.6.

[224] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 May 1783**
Present: Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford.

[225] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 June 1783**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles, Richard Bright Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

An Enquiry into some Passages in Johnson's Lives of the Poets by R. Potter £0.2.6.
Observations on the River Wye and South Wales 15 plates by the Rev. Mr. Gilpin £0.12.0.
Colman's Horace
Stephani Lexicon, with Scott's appendix
Answer to the Bishop of Landaff's [*sic*] Letter to the archbishop.

[226] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 June 1783**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

[227] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 July 1783**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ford, John Garnett Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Dyer, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles.

Lord Bishop of Norwich[138] having presented the Society with a copy of Biblia Polyglotta B. Waltono, 6 Tom. Requested that the Vice President return the Thanks of the Committee to his Lordship for the favour of this valuable Donation.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Monro's Treatise on the Nervous System
Description of the Gems in the possession of the Duke of Orleans
Life of Archbishop Chichele 8vo. £0.5.0.
Papers published by the Bath Agriculture Society
Bishop of Chester's Sermons

[228] **At a meeting of the Committee, 15 July 1783**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Dr. Broughton, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

The copy of Monro on the Nervous System lately sent to the Library by Mr. White being defective Ordered that it be returned to Mr. White.

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[138] Lewis Bagot (1740–1802), who had recently translated from Bristol to Norwich.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Vogel's Praelectiones Academicae 8vo.
Blair's Lectures on Belles Lettres
Catalogue des Livres de la Duc de la Valliere 9 Tom.

[229] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 July 1783**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Ford, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Dyer, Dr. Broughton, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Ordered that Hoole's Translation of the Orlando Furioso be sent for.

[230] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 August 1783**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica No. XI.
Bp. Atterbury's Epistolary Correspondence 2 vol. 8vo.
Marsden's History of the Island of Sumatra 2to.
Essai sur la Physiognomie par John Gaspard Lavater traduit en François.
Linnaean Index to Catesby's Carolina £0.2.6.
Crosts's Catalogue with Prices, by Paterson £0.2.0.

[231] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 August 1783**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. William Milton, John Garnett Esq., Mr. Eagles.

[232] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 September 1783**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles.

[233] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 September 1783**
Present: [blank page]

[234] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 October 1783**
Present: Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Dr. Broughton.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Code of Gentoo Laws
Priestley's Corruptions of Christianity
Historical view of the Taste for Gardening &c.
Bryant's Account of esculent Plants
Institutes of Timour

2. Agreed that £0.18.0. be accepted for Linnaei Systema naturae, 4 vol.

3. Agreed to subscribe to two Copies for Mr. Coulton's Epitome to the Bible £0.6.0.

4. Agreed to subscribe for a copy of Mr. Seyer's Lexicon.

5. Agreed to subscribe for a copy of the British Archaeology.

[235] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 October 1783**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Dr. Broughton, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Dyer.

[236] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 November 1783**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Broughton, Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Harford Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Pennant's Tour thro' Wales vol. 2d.
Lind on the diseases of warm Climates
Pennant's last vol. of British Zoology on crustaceous animals
Confessions of J. J. Rousseau 2 vol.
Pownall on the Study of Antiquities
Whitelocke's Memorial folio. last Edition
Horsley's Charge to the clergy of St. Albans

[237] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 November 1783**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Stuart's History of Scotland 2 vol. 8vo.
Reeves's History of the English Law 4to. £1.4.0.
Pringle's Six Discourses &c. 8vo. £0.6.0.

[238] **At a meeting of the Committee, 2 December 1783**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Voyages, autour du Monde, et vers les deux Poles par terre et par mer. par. m. Pages 2 vol. 8vo. Paris 1782.

Ordered that Pennant's Journey to Snowdon be disposed of.

[239] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 December 1783**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Instructions d'un Pere à ses Enfans, sur le Principe de la Vertu et du Bonheur par Abr. Trembley – Geneve 1783 à 36 sols.[139]
Addresses and Recommendations to the States, by the United States in Congress Assembled 8vo. £0.2.0.

[240] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 December 1783**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Ben Jonson's Works by Whalley
Pilkington's Dictionary of Painters
Fenelon's Dialogues on the Eloquence of the Pulpit.

[241] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 January 1784**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Mr. Munckley, Rev. Dr. Camplin, Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq., John Garnett Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Capper's Observations on the passage to India thro' Egypt.
History of the Flagellants 8vo.
Dawes miscellanea critica T. Burgess

[242] **At a meeting of the Committee, 27 January 1784**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Glasse's Greek Translation of Caractacus
Caesaris quae extant Delph. à Goduino £0.18.0. Par. 1678

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[139] The sol, later called a sou, is the name of a number of different coins, for accounting or payment, and still used in Switzerland, where a hundred-sou coin is a five-Swiss-franc coin and a four-sou coin is a twenty-Swiss-centime coin.

[243] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 February 1784**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, John Merlott Esq. Alderman.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Richardson's Analysis of Shakespear [*sic*] part 2d.
Richardson's Letters
Quinctilianus de Oratoriâ Institutione, à Capperonnerio Par. 1725. No. 268 White's Catal. £0.18.0.
Reports of the Commissioners of accounts
Farmer's Essay on the Learning of Shakespear [*sic*]

[244] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 February 1784**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, John Garnett Esq., Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

A select collection of fugitive pieces of wit & humour 4 vol. 8vo.
Atterbury's epistolary correspondence vol. 3d.

[245] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 March 1784**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Dr. Plomer.

1. Agreed that the General Meeting to be held on Monday the 22nd of this month be at the Bush Tavern at half after six o'clock in the evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending cards to each subscriber, and by putting an advertisement into the Bristol Gazette and into Cocking's Paper immediately preceding the General Meeting.

2. Agreed that the great increase of Books renders it necessary to provide some additional Room to contain them, and that a Plan for that purpose be laid before the General Meeting; and that the Librarian give notice of the same in the summonses to be sent to each subscriber.

3. The Rev. Mr. Debat[140] has transferred His Property in the Library to Mr. John Daniel[141]
Rev. Mr. Wilde[142] to Mr. William Morgan[143]
Mr. Richard Champion to Mr. Orton Smith

[140] Rev. Daniel Debat (d. 1785), Rector at Bristol Christ Church and later Bristol Holy Trinity. BA at Queen's, Cambridge.
[141] Possibly a painter in 17 Old King Street.
[142] Rev. Sydenham Teast Wilde, clerk at Blagdon, Somersetshire. *Poll Book 1781*.
[143] There are several candidates, but the most likely one is a custom house officer.

Henry Cruger[144] Esq. Alderman to Mr. John Span
Capt. Herring to the Rev. Dr. Small[145]
Mr. Meyerhoff[146] to the Rev. Mr. T. Ap Jones[147]
Mr. Cuninghame[148] to Mr. William M. Yeo[149]
Rev. Mr. Bere to Mr. Francis Fisher[150]
Rev. Mr. Deake[151] to Mr. John Rudhall
Mr. Thomas Hayes[152] to Mr. Jeremiah Hill[153]
Rev. Mr. William Jones to Mr. John Cooke[154]
Mr. John Terrick Waller[155] to Mr. John Champion

4. Audited the Treasurer's account for the present year, by which it appears that a Balance of £9.16.6. remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account.

[246] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 March 1784**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Richard Bright Esq.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Wellwood's Memoirs
Plays of 3 acts, written for a private theatre by W. Hayley £0.12.0.

2. Resolved that no purchases be made exceeding the annual income but by the consent of a majority of the whole Committee specially summoned. Vide General Meeting Book folio 11.

3. Agreed to write a Letter Mr. Paty desiring him to furnish the Committee with such particulars as will be necessary for a foundation of an agreement with Builders according to the Plan proposed; and that he be advised to attend the Committee this day sennight.

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[144] Henry Cruger (1739–1827), American merchant and MP for Bristol in 1774–80 and 1784–90. Opposition Whig, but not a Rockinghamite. The Cruger family were Atlantic traders. Born and died in New York.
[145] Rev. Dr. Joseph Atwell Small (d. 1814), Perpetual Curate at Bristol St James between 1781 and 1799. Educated at Oxford. *CCEd*.
[146] Diederick Meyerhoff, merchant in 24 Princes Street.
[147] Chaplain at the Bristol Royal Infirmary. Member of the Bear's Cub Club, a Bristol debating club.
[148] William Cuninghame, possibly an apothecary in 3 Chapel Row. A William Cunninghame stood for parliament unsuccessfully in 1790, and received five votes only.
[149] William Yeo, apothecary in Dowry Square.
[150] Insurance broker, at the Exchange.
[151] Rev. John Deake (d. 1829), Rector of St Athan and St Bride's Netherwent in Wales near Bristol. BA at Jesus College, Oxford.
[152] Merchant in 10 St James's Square.
[153] Jeremiah Hill (1720–1810), merchant and steward of the Bristol Marine Society.
[154] 'Gentleman' in Day Street, Cathay.
[155] John Terrick Waller, planter and West India merchant. Signatory of a 1782 petition entitled *The Humble Address and Petition of the Planters and Merchants Whose Names are Hereunto Subscribed, on Behalf of Themselves, and Others Interested in the British West India Islands*.

4. Agreed that the Committee meet this day sennight, and that the Librarian send a summons to each member of the Committee.

[247] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 March 1784**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Dr. Camplin, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles.

Mr. Paty having brought in Instructions by which workmen may form their Estimates for the additional Building, agreed that an Advertisement be put in the Bristol Gazette and in the three papers of next Saturday addressed to Masons Carpenters &c. desiring them to send in their Proposals directed to the Library Committee on or before the 20th of April next.

[248] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 April 1784**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. Ford

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Duncan's Logic
Law of Simony £0.3.6.
Davies's Dramatic miscellanies
Otway's Works
Commissioners Reports 8th. 9th. 10th. & 11th.

Ordered that a List of the Books brought into the Library since the catalogue was printed in June 1782 be printed by the next General Meeting.

[249] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 April 1784**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Joseph Harford Esq., John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Mr. Dyer, John Garnett Esq., Mr. Ford.

1. If it should hereafter be determined to build an additional Room to the Library, Agreed that the following Proposals by Mr. James West be accepted; viz.[156]
'16 April 1784
An Estimate for Building the Intended Addition to the Library in King Street Bristol to be finished in every Branch in a Workmanlike Manner, According to a Plan & Instructions by Mr. Paty & Sons. for the sum off [*sic*] £495.0.0.
by Gentlemen your humble Servant
James West.'

2. Resolved that Mr. Paty be employed to inspect the Building.

[156] See introduction for more details.

3. Ordered that the following Book be sent for

The Origin & Progress of Writing by Thomas Astle Esq. 2to. £1.11.6.

[250] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 May 1784**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Ford, Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Description des Experiences de la Machine Aerostatique par Mr. Faujas de St. Fond.
History of the Revolt of Ali Bey 8vo. £0.5.0.
Narrative of the Dissensions & Debates in the Royal Society £0.2.6.

2. Agreed that a copy of Mr. Banister's Translation of Four Tragedies of Euripides be subscribed for.

3. Agreed that a copy of the Rev. Mr. Phillips's Essay in Education be subscribed for.

[251] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 May 1784**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bp. Berkeley's Works
Bibliotheca Topographica No. 12 and the remaining numbers.

[252] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 June 1784**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Richard Bright Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford.

At a meeting of the Committee, 15 June 1784
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles.

At a meeting of the Committee, 29 June 1784
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Doddington's Diary
Transactions of the Society for promoting arts. 8vo. £0.5.0.
Antient Metaphysics vol. 3d.
Rousseau's Works 4to. bound.

[253] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 July 1784**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

At a meeting of the Committee, 27 July 1784
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles.

At a meeting of the Committee, 10 August 1784
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Coxe's Travels into Poland, Russia &c. 2 vol.
Peru, a Poem by Miss Williams
Anecdotes of Voltaire

[254] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 August 1784**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer.

At a meeting of the Committee, 7 September 1784
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Mr. Collinson, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles.

At a meeting of the Committee, 25 September 1784
Present: Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

[255] **At a meeting of the Committee, 5 October 1784**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

At a meeting of the Committee, 19 October 1784
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Dyer.

At a meeting of the Committee, 2 November 1784
Present: Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

[256] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 November 1784**
Present: The Rev. the Dean. [Hallam], Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Remarks on the French & English Ladies in a Series of Letters by J. Andrews. LLD. 8vo.
Black's Historical Sketch of Medicine & Surgery
Moral & Literary Dissertations by Percival
Aristophanes Gr. & Lat. cum Scholiis antiquis Kusteri
Mercure de France

Diodorus Siculus Gr. & Lat. Wesselingii. fol.
Apollonius Rhodius à Shaw
Letters to a young Gentleman setting out for France by J. Andrews LLD. 8vo £0.6.0.
Platonis opera, Serrani
Mitford's History of Greece vol. 1. 4to. £0.16.0.
Appendix to Howard on Jails – to be had gratis
Appendix to Smith on the wealth of nations

2. Mr. B. White Bookseller in London having presented the Society with the Designs of Inigo Jones, consisting of Plans & Elevations for Public & Private Buildings. Published by W. Kent in 2 vol. folio; the Librarian is desired to return him the Thanks of the committee in behalf of the Society.

[257] 3. The Rev. Mr. Hart[157] having presented a Missal illuminated in manuscript, and a Roll containing a List of the Mayors, Prepositors, Bayliffs [*sic*] and Sheriffs of Bristol with some remarkable occurrences there from the year 1216 to 1608, to this Society; ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. Mr. Hart for the same.

4. Daniel Crespin Esq. having presented Lord Sheffield's Treatise on the commerce of the American States to this Society; Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Crespin for the same.

At a meeting of the Committee, 30 November 1784
Present: Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Eagles.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Philosophical Transactions vol. 73. parts 1 & 2.
Medical Observations & Inquiries by a Society of Physicians in London. vol. 6. 8vo.
The Dean of St. Asaph's Trial by Gurney with the Proceedings that have been had since.
Transactions of the Society in London for the Encouragement of Arts Manufactures & Commerce for the year 1784
Annual Register for 1782
Kippis's Account of the Debates in the Royal Society.

2. The Librarian is desired to enquire the Price of the Saxon chronicle by Gibson.[158]

[258] **At a meeting of the Committee, 14 December 1784**
Present: Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Mr. Ford, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Eagles.

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[157] Richard Hart (d. 1809), vicar of Bristol St George between 1759 and his death in 1809. Does not appear to have been a library member.
[158] *Chronicon Saxonicum. Ex MSS codicibus nunc primum integrum edidit, ac Latinum fecit Edmundus Gibson. A.B. è Collegio Reginæ* (Oxford, 1692).

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Sr William Jones's Discourse on the Institution of a Society for enquiring in the History &c. of Asia.
Principles of the Doctrine of Life – Annuities by Baron Maseres.

2. Agreed to subscribe for a copy of Mrs. Yearsley's Poems

3. The Librarian is desired to enquire the Price of Du Cange's [i.e. De Fresne] Glossary 10 vol. folio.

[259] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 December 1784**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Dr. Plomer, Mr. For, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Twining on Tea
Rayner's Tithe Cases £0.18.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 11 January 1785
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Harford Esq., John Merlott Esq. Alderman, John Garnett Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Walpole's Historical Doubts
Bergman's Works vol. 1 & 2. translated by Cullen
Kirwan's Mineralogy 1 vol. 8vo.
White's Bampton Lectures 1 vol. 8vo.

[260] **At a meeting of the Committee, 25 January 1785**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Hakluyt's Voyages 3 vol. in 2. White's Catal. No. 959. £3.3.0.
Walpole's Historic Doubts – White's Catal. No. 2816 – £0.5.0.
Young's Annals of Agriculture
Birch's Memoirs of Queen Elizabeth. Egerton's[159] Catal. No. 844 £1.11.6.
Les Tableaux. Egerton's Catal. No. 1617. £0.5.0.

2. The Librarian is desired to enquire the price of

[159] Probably Thomas & John Egerton, booksellers in Charing Cross, London, who traded under this name between 1784 and 1795. Thomas Egerton traded between 1782 and 1830. Successor to John Millan; *BBTI*.

Willis's History of Abbies, and
Table Analytique et raisonnée des 33 volumes de l'Encyclopedie, par Mr. Mouchon 2 vol. folio.

3. Agreed that the corporation of this city be applied to for a Grant of the void Ground adjoining the Library, and that the Librarian draw up a Memorial for that purpose and bring it to the next Committee.

[261] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 February 1785**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Mr. Dyer, Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Ford.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Henry's History of Britain vol. 5.
Chardin, Journal d'un voyage en Perse et aux Indes Orientales avec Figures. £0.5.0. folio – London 1686 – Robson's Catal. No. 1460.

2. Copy of the memorial.

To the Right Worshipful the Mayor, the Worshipful the Alderman, Sheriffs, and Common Council of Bristol
The memorial of the Committee of the Library Society most respectfully sheweth that about twelve years ago you were pleased to give your generous Encouragement to Knowledge and Literature, by granting to this Society a part of your Library for the Reception of their Books; in consequence of that Encouragement, the Society have made so many valuable Purchases, that the present Building is no longer large enough for their proper arrangement and Reception: They therefore most respectfully request, that you would grant them the void Ground adjoining to the Library, on which they may erect a proper Building for that purpose; the scheme that was some years since adopted by you for the further accommodation of the Society having proved ineffectual.
Signed by the Vice President [Casberd]

[262] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 February 1785**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

1. Mr. Alderman Merlott reported that the Corporation have been pleased to grant to this Society the void ground adjoining to the Library to the purposes mentioned in the Memorial, and have also Voted One hundred Pounds towards defraying the expense of fronting the intended Building with Free stone.

2. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Beattie's Dissertations moral and critical £1.1.0.
Arabian nights entertainments
Memoirs of G. Ann Bellamy

3. Agreed that the Librarian be allowed the Guinea which, on settling the Accounts with the Treasurer March 11. 1783, he advanced for Mr. William Hetling.[160]

4. Several members of this Society not having yet subscribed towards raising a sum to enable the Society to build an additional Library Room, it is recommended to the Committee and the Librarian to apply to them for that purpose.

[263] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 March 1785**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford, John Garnett Esq.

1. Agreed that the General Meeting to be held on Monday the 21st of this month be at the Bush Tavern at half after six o'clock in the evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending cards to each subscriber, and by putting an advertisement into the Bristol Gazette and into Cocking's paper immediately preceding the General Meeting.

2. Agreed that in the summonses to be sent to each subscriber the Librarian give notice that the committee will then lay before the society what steps have been taken with regard to the intended Building.

3. Daniel Crespin Esq. having presented Mr. Pegge's Curialia, part first and second to this Society; Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Crespin for the same.

4. John Vaughan Esq. has transferred his Property in the Library to Mr. William Delpratt
Mr. William M. Yeo to Mr. Henry Dupont[161]
George Searle Bayliffe Esq.[162] to Mr. Joseph Lloyd[163]
The Right Hon: Lord Lisle[164] to Mr. John Dupont
Mr. Nathaniel Watts[165] to Mr. Thomas Hellicar[166]
Mr. William Cornish[167] to Mr. John Bull[168]
Mrs. Pope[169] to Mr. John Paty[170]
Mr. William Morgan to Mr. Morgan Yeatman[171]

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[160] William Hetling, 'gentleman' in 29 Queen Square.
[161] Almost certainly related to John Dupont. Married Miss Speed of Albemarle Row, Hotwells, Bristol, described as 'an agreeable young Lady with a handsome fortune' in *Felix Farley's Bristol Journal*, at Clifton in 1783.
[162] George Searle Baylisse (1734–1813), attorney in Chippenham.
[163] Joseph Lloyd, bookseller in Wine Street.
[164] John Lysaght, 2nd Baron Lisle of Mountnorth (1729–1798), member of the English aristocracy in Ireland and member of the Irish Parliament. Died in Bristol in 1798.
[165] Grocer and tea dealer in 65 Castle Street.
[166] Thomas Hellicar (1755–1835), merchant in Queen Square.
[167] Druggist in 6 James's Square.
[168] Possibly a reference to Rev. John Bull.
[169] Presumably the wife of Andrew Pope Esq., sugar baker in 9 Whitson Court, alderman and mayor in 1776.
[170] Member of the local architect dynasty; see Priest, *The Paty Family*.
[171] Surgeon in Orchard Street.

Dr. Broughton to John Davie Esq.[172]
Mr. Eaton[173] to Mr. Thomas Partridge[174]

5. Audited the Treasurer's Account for the present year, by which it appears that a Balance of £54.19.2. remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account.

[264] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 March 1785**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer, Dr. Plomer.

1. Resolved that no Purchases be made exceeding the annual Income but by the consent of a Majority of the whole Committee specially summoned. Vide General Meeting Book folio 11.

2. Resolved that letters be sent to those who have subscribed towards the intended additional Building, requesting them to pay their subscriptions to the Librarian; also to those members of the Society who have not yet subscribed towards it, requesting them to send what sums they shall please to contribute for that purpose to the Librarian.

3. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

The Maps of Cook's Voyages in the political Magazine for December and January last. £0.2.0.
Milton's smaller Poems by Parton 8vo £0.8.0.
The Principles of natural and politic Law translated from Burlamaqui by Dr. Nugent 3d. Edition.

[265] **At a meeting of the Committee, 5 April 1785**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. John Paine Berjew, John Garnett Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer, Joseph Harford Esq.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

The Mine a Poem
Cavallo's History of Aerostation 1 vol. 8vo £0.6.0.
Historical View of the Constitution of Geneva £0.5.0.

2. John Garnett Esq. is requested to procure a copy of the memoirs of the Oeconomical Society at Berne 26 vol. £0.39.0.

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[172] Possibly the Mayor of Twerton (near Bath). Could also be John Davy Esq., who inherited a manor entitled Tillhouse in Devon from his father John Davy, a merchant of Exeter; see Richard Polwhele, *The History of Devonshire* (3 vols., Exeter, 1793–1806), II, p. 196.
[173] Possibly John Eaton, merchant in St Thomas; *Poll Book 1774,* p. 117.
[174] Surgeon and member of the Bear's Cub Club. Signed a petition against the return of George Daubeny, presented on 12 March 1781. Came by marriage into the possession of Cotham House.

3. Ordered that Herbert's History of Printing in England, 3 vol. 4to be subscribed for.

4. Agreed that Mr. Paty be desired to supervise the Building.

5. Agreed that, the General Board having made an order that no Person keeping a Lodging-House shall be permitted to subscribe to this Society, the Committee cannot accept Mr. John Dupont's subscription.

[266] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 April 1785**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Dante's Inferno Boyd's Translation 2 vol. 8vo

Agreed that Mr. Eagles be requested to subscribe in the name of the Society for a copy of Arnot's Collection of Trials in Scotland.

At a meeting of the Committee, 3 May 1785
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Berjew.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bishop of Llandaff's Theological Tracts 6 vol.
Willett's Letters to Mrs. Bellamy.

[267]
At a meeting of the Committee, 17 May 1785
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, John Garnett Esq., Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Broughton.

At a meeting of the Committee, 31 May 1785
Present: Mr. Munckley, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Table Analytique et raisonnée des 33 Tom. de l'Encyclopedie, par Mr. Mouchon 2 vol. folio
6th volume of Mrs. G. A. Bellamy
Probationary Odes for the Laurel

[268] **At a meeting of the Committee, 14 June 1785**

Present: John Deverell Esq., Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, John Garnett Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Chemical Analysis of Wolfram
Reports of the Committee of Council on the Trade with Ireland
Wharton's Letter to the Roman Catholics of Worcester
Sheridan's Life of Swift, if it may be had separate from the Works.

At a meeting of the Committee, 28 June 1785
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

[269] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 July 1785**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. Broughton.

At a meeting of the Committee, 26 July 1785
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles.

At a meeting of the Committee, 9 August 1785
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Memoirs of the Baron de Tott 2 vol. 8vo
Pilkington's Memoirs
Rolliad
Reeves's History of the English Law vol. 2^{d}. 4to
Supplemental Plates to Pennant's Tour in Wales

[270] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 August 1785**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Berjew.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Machines of the Society of Arts &c. vol. 3^{d}
Young's Annals of Agriculture No. 13. 14.
Neckar [i.e. Necker] on the Administration of the Finances of France translated by Mortimer 3 vol. 8vo.
Probationary Odes for the Laureatship – Last Edit.

2. Mr. George Catcott having presented to this Society Rowley's Poems with some Transcripts from his prose manuscripts, Extracts from Reviews Magazines &c. 1 vol. 8vo. And a Manuscript, containing an Account of Pen-Park-hole, of John the

Painter's Attempt to burn the Shipping & Houses in Bristol, and of the Rebuilding & Repairing some Churches in the said city; Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Catcott for the same.

[271] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 September 1785**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Francis Ward.

1. Agreed that the Treasurer be desired to pay Mr. West the sum of Three hundred Pounds on account of the New Building.

2. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Andrea's Letters upon Switserland [*sic*]
Blomefield's History of Norfolk
Sparrman's Journey from the Cape of Good Hope 2 vol.
Paley's Principles of Moral and Political Philosophy
Letters of Literature by Heron.

At a meeting of the Committee, 20 September 1785
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bishop of Bristol's Sermon before the House of Lords
Keeme's History of Lapland, Quarto, Danish and Latin

The Treasurer reported that in compliance with the direction of the last Committee he had paid Mr. James West Mason Three hundred pounds on account of the new Building adjoining the Library.

[272] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 October 1785**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

At a meeting of the Committee, 18 October 1785
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Essai sur la Physiognomonie par J. G. Lavater, partie 3.
Archaeologia vol. VIII. 4to in boards.
Transactions of the Society, instituted at London, for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures & Commerce vol. 8vo £0.4.0. in boards.
The Journal of a Tour to the Hebrides by Boswell

Swinburne's Travels in the Two Sicilies vol. 2d 4to
Philosophical Transactions vol. 75. Part 1st £0.8.0.
Withering on the Fox Glove
Cowper's Poems 2 vol.
Les Oeuvres de Racine £1.5.0. – No. 3363 White's Catal.

[273] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 November 1785**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

At a meeting of the Committee, 15 November 1785
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Richard Bright Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Atwood on the Rectilinear Motion & Rotation of Bodies

[274] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 November 1785**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Dr. Plomer, John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Mr. Dyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Philosophical Transactions vol. 75. part 2d
Memoirs of the Protectorate House of Cromwell
Ordered that the Librarian be desired to inquire of Mr. Browne[175] what sum he will allow for 23 vols of the Monthly Review, well bound: Provided the Library Society should purchase of him the same work from its first publication in 1749 to the end of the year 1784. 71 vol. half bound price £10.10.0. in his catalogue.

[275] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 December 1785**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], John Merlott Esq. Alderman, Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

The Monthly Review 71 vol. half bound. Browne's catalogue price £10.10.0.
General Index to the Monthly Review
Hamilton's Attempt to prove the existence of the Supreme Being. 8vo. £0.3.6.

[276] **At a meeting of the Committee, 27 December 1785**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Mr. Eagles, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, John Garnett Esq., Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

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[175] Probably Arthur Browne, bookbinder, stationer, and owner of circulating library. Active in Tolzey, Corn Street, Bristol.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Biographia Dramatica 2 vol. 8vo £0.12.0.
Drinkwater's Account of the Siege of Gibraltar
Letters on Infidelity

At a meeting of the Committee, 10 January 1786
Present: The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, John Garnett Esq., Rev. Mr. Broughton.

[277] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 January 1786**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

At a meeting of the Committee, 24 January 1786
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Mr. Ford, Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Benjamin Spry, Mr. Berjew.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

The Observer
Astronomie De La Lande 4 vol. 4to
Memoirs of the Manchester Society
Wood's Description of Bath

2. Mr. Berkin[176] having presented Speed's Historie of Great Britain 1 vol. folio, Jones's Essay on the first principles of Nat. Philosophy 1 vol. 4to. and his Catholic Doctrine of a Trinity 1 vol. 8vo to this Society; Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Berkin for the same.

[278] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 February 1786**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Glossarium mediee et infirmee Latinidatis Ducany 10 vol. folio
Progress of Romance 2 vol. 8vo £0.5.0.
Strutt's History of Engravers, 2 vols £0.10.0.
Florio & Bas Bleux £0.3.0.
Journal of the Siege of Gibraltar £1.7.0.
History of Wales by Warrington £1.1.0.
Stone's Essay on Agriculture
Gilpin's Life of Abp. Cranmer

[176] William Berkin Esq., 'gentleman' in Clifton Hill.

2. The Librarian is desired to direct Mr. West to make a communication from the present Library with the new Room, by the Gallery, immediately; and to have a Door ready to secure the Books.

[279] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 March 1786**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles.

1. Agreed that the General Meeting to be held on Monday the 20th of this month be at the Bush Tavern at half after five o'clock in the evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a Summons to each subscriber, and by putting an Advertisement into the Bristol Gazette and into Cocking's paper immediately preceding the General Meeting.

2. Agreed that in the Summonses to be sent to each subscriber that the Librarian give notice that the committee will then lay before the Society what Progress has been made relative to the New Building.

3. Agreed that a List of the Subscribers be printed, and that the Sums subscribed to the New Building be annexed to their names.

4. Agreed that 300 Lists of the Committee be printed.

5. Agreed that Mr. Rudhall be appointed Printer to the Bristol Library Society.

6. The Rev. Dr. Camplin[177] has transferred his Property in the Library to the Rev. Thomas Camplin[178]
Miss French to Miss Merlott[179]
Mrs. Mary Cowles[180] to Mr. John Appleton[181]

7. Audited the Treasurer's Account for the present year, by which it appears that a Balance of £117.17.2. remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's Account.

[280] **At a meeting of the Committee, 15 March 1786**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, John Garnett Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton.

[281] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 March 1786**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ward, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

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[177] Vicar of Bristol St Nicholas between 1761 and his death in 1799. MA from Queen's, Oxford. *CCEd*.
[178] Vicar of Bristol All Saints between 1790 and his death in 1815. BA from Magdalen, Oxford. *CCEd*.
[179] Presumably the daughter of John Merlott Esq.; see appendix 1.
[180] Almost certainly the wife of William Cowles, merchant in 32 Castle Green.
[181] Unidentified, but presumably related to the grocer Thomas Appleton in St. Philip and Jacob. Appleton was an old surname in Bristol; see Beaven, *Bristol Lists,* p. 201.

Williams's Letters concerning Education
Reports of the Commissioners of the Public Accounts 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, & 14th.
Gillies's History of Ancient Greece 2 vol. 4to
Annual Register for 1783
Dunster's translation of the Frogs of Aristophanes

At a meeting of the Committee, 4 April 1786
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ford, John Garnett Esq., Mr. Ward.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Piozzi's Memoirs of Dr. Johnson
The fourth volume of Chambers's Dictionary by Rees
The 23d. & following Numbers of Bibliotheca Topogr. Brit.
Schomberg's view of the Civil Law

2. Ordered that Cowper's translation of Homer be subscribed for.

[282] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 April 1786**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Mr. Collinson, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Berjew, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ward.

Ordered that Sinclair's History of the Public Revenue be sent for.

At a meeting of the Committee, 2 May 1786
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ward, John Garnett Esq., Rev. Mr. Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Watson's Chemical Essays vol. 4th
Medical Transactions vol. 3d
Dr. Jeffries's Account of his & Blanchard's Aerial voyages £0.7.6.

Ordered that the Door to the new Room be made of Oak.

[283] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 May 1786**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ward, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. William Milton, John Garnett Esq., Rev. Mr. Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Xenophon's works, by Wells, Robson 3380
Adventures

Peter Pindar's poetical Epistle to Boswell and all the works of this author.

At a meeting of the Committee, 30 May 1786
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Ward, Mr. Berjew.

[284] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 June 1786**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Berjew, Mr. Ward.

At a meeting of the Committee, 27 June 1786
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, John Garnett Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

D'Ankerville Rechercher sur les Arts de Grece aux figures 3 Tom. 4to
Rabelais – best Edition – in French. 4to
Athenaeus by Casaubon
Jones's Relics of the Welsh Bards
Ludlam on Hadley's Quadrant
Anderson's Account of the present State of the Hebrides.
The Alexandrian MS. Of the New Testament printed by the Rev. Mr. Woide of the British Museum £2.2.0.

[285] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 July 1786**
Present: [blank]

At a meeting of the Committee, 25 July 1786
Present: [blank]

[286] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 August 1786**
Present: Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles.

At a meeting of the Committee, 22 August 1786
Present: Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Ward.

[287] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 September 1786**
Present: Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ward.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

The last volume of Thurloe's State Papers.
Second Volume of Strutt's Engravers
Campbell's Philosophy of Rhetoric 2to £0.12.0.
Paterson's Bibliotheca Universalis Selecta 8vo £0.5.6.

Ordered that the Librarian enquire the price of the best edition of Aristotle.

At a meeting of the Committee, 19 September 1786
Present: Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

Ordered that a List, of those Subscribers who have not yet contributed towards the Building, be drawn out against the next Committee, arranged by Parishes.

[288] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 October 1786**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Brougton, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Berjew.

Ordered that Mr. White be requested, when he can get a very good copy of Dr. Val's last Edition of Aristotle to inform the Library Society of it.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Clarendon's State Papers vol. 3d just published
Woide's Codex Gr. N. Test. Alex. £.3.3.0.
Ruffhead's Statutes vol. 14th

[289] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 October 1786**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Berjew.

Ordered that the 15th volume of Ruffhead's Statutes be sent for.

[290] **At a meeting of the Committee, 31 October 1786**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Ward, Mr. Berjew, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

The Observer
Ancient & Modern Universal History: But Previous to its being sent for, to enquire the difference between the 2 editions & the price of each.

Ordered that Letters be sent to those subscribers who have not yet contributed to the Building; and that One hundred copies of the Letter following be immediately printed for that purpose.

Bristol Library Society, 31 October 1786
At the last Meeting of the Committee it appeared that, notwithstanding the very liberal contributions of many Subscribers, about Two Hundred Pounds are wanting to complete and fit up the New Building. The Committee therefore, considering that every Subscriber will have an equal Interest as well in the Building as in the Books, have resolved to lay a state of the Business before those who have not yet contributed to this purpose, and to solicit their kind Assistance to enable the Society to finish the Undertaking.

The estimated Expence of the Building, Shelves, &c: £660.0.0.
To defray which

By a Donation from the Corporation:	£100.0.0.
By the voluntary Contribution of 79 Subscribers:	£331.16.0.
	£431.16.0.
Balance:	£228.4.0.

Sir,
I am directed by the Committee to apply to you for your assistance to raise the above Balance.
I am, Sir your obedient Servant
Librarian

[291] **At a meeting of the Committee, 14 November 1786**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Ford, Mr. Eagles.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Ancient & Modern Universal History. New Edition £14.14.0.
Chinese Fragment
Philosophical Transactions vol. 76. part first
Transactions of the Society for Encouragement of Arts &c. vol. 4th

2. Ordered that Mr. West be applied to for his Bill.

3. Ordered that the Lamp at the Gate of the Library House be lighted every Evening during the winter.

[292] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 November 1786**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Mr. Eagles, John Garnett Esq., Mr. Ward, Mr. Ford, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Letters on Egypt.

At a meeting of the Committee, 13 December 1786
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., John Garnett Esq., Rev. Mr. Broughton.

[293] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 December 1786**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Rev. Mr. Collinson, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Mr. Ward, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Anderson on National Industry
Anderson on Agriculture & Rural Affairs

Reid on the Intellectual Powers of man
Grose's Supplement to the Antiquities of England & Wales
Memoirs of the Bath Society vol. 3d
Bishop Newcome's Translation of the twelve Minor Prophets.

[294] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 January 1787**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Richard Bright Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ford, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Eagles.

1. Ordered that the following Book be sent for
Hughes's Edition of Spencer's Poems 6 vol. 18mo

2. Agreed that the Treasurer be desired to pay Mr. James West the sum of One hundred Pounds on account of the New Building.

3. Agreed that Mr. Paty be desired to inspect the notes sent in by Mr. West, and if they appear right to undersign them: It is also agreed that Mr. Paty be requested to send in his own Note on the Society.

[295] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 January 1787**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer.

1. Ordered that the following Book be sent for

History of the Gwedir Family

2. Application having been made to the Treasurer for discharging the Bills for the New Building at the Library, Agreed that Joseph Harford Esq. be requested to apply to the chamberlain for the Donation of the corporation.

[296] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 February 1787**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ward, Mr. Ford.

1. Agreeably to the second minute of the last Committee, Joseph Harford Esq. has received from the chamberlain One hundred Pounds, the Donation of the Corporation and has paid it to the hands of the Rev. Thomas Johnes.

2. Ordered that a Committee extraordinary be summoned for Tuesday next at half past twelve o'clock; for the purpose of examining into the finishing of the New Building at the Library, and for finally settling with Mr. West.

[297] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 February 1787**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

1. Agreed that the Treasurer be desired to pay Mr. West the sum of Two hundred Pounds, the remainder of the Money due to him for the contract work: also Twenty one Pounds sixteen shillings & two pence, the amount of his note for Extra work not included in the contract.

2. Agreed that the Treasurer be desired to pay Mr. Paty Twenty five Pounds, his note for superintending the new Building at the Library.

3. Agreed that the Treasurer be desired to pay Mr. Stocking[182] Three Pounds six Shillings & four pence, the amount of his note for extra work not included in the contract.

4. Agreed that Mr. Stock[183] with Mr. Paty do revise Mr. Stock's note for extra work; and that Mr. Paty be desired to give his report of the same at the next committee.

[298] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 February 1787**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Mr. Ford, Richard Bright Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Broughton.

1. The Treasurer reported that in compliance with the direction of the last Committee he had paid Mr. James West Mason Two hundred and twenty one Pounds sixteen shillings. Viz: Two hundred Pounds, the Balance due to him for the contract work; and twenty one Pounds sixteen shillings, the amount of his note for Extra work not included in the contract.

2. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Andrews's History of the American war
Domesday Book – £6.6.0. – Robson.

[299] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 March 1787**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Ward, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. Broughton.

1. The Treasurer reported that, in compliance with the direction of the committee of the 13th of February, he had paid Mr. Paty Twenty five Pounds, the amount of his note for superintending the New Building at the Library; Mr. Stocking Three Pounds six shillings & four pence and Mr. Stock Ten Pounds eighteen shillings, the amount of their respective notes for extra work not included in the contract.

2. Agreed that the General Meeting be held on Monday the 18th of this month at the Bush Tavern at six o'clock in the evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a summons to each Subscriber, and by putting an advertisement into the Bristol Gazette & into Cocking & Rudhall's paper immediately preceding the General meeting.

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[182] Thomas Stocking, 'tyler and plaisterer' in Limekiln Lane.
[183] A 'gentleman' of this name lived at 4 Dove Street, but this individual is more likely in context to have been a tradesman of some kind.

3. Agreed that 300 Lists of the Committee be printed.

4. Miss Hannah Green & Miss Eliza Green have transferred their late Father's[184] Property in the Library to Mr. Philip Debell Tuckett.[185]

5. Richard Bright Esq. transferred one of his shares in the Library to Dr. Cooper[186] who has since transferred the same to Richard Bright Esq.

6. Mr. Thomas Cave[187] has transferred his Property in the Library to Dr. Samuel Cave.[188]

[300] 7. Mr. Thomas Rutter[189] Executor to the Late Mr. John Appleton has transferred the Property of the same late Mr. John Appleton in the Library to Mr. Joseph Metford.[190]

8. Mrs. Eliza Maud[191] has transferred her Property in the Library to the Rev. John Cooke.

9. Audited the Treasurer's Account for the present year, by which it appears that a Balance of One hundred & forty Pounds fourteen shillings & six pence remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account.

[301] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 March 1787**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Eagles.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Fenn's Original Letters during the Reigns of Henry VI. Edward IV. & Richard III. 2 vol. 4to. £1.16.0.
Enquiries concerning Lettres de Cachet & State Prisons written by the Comte de Mirabeau 2 vol. 8vo. £0.12.0. in boards.
Baron Haller's First lines of Physiology translated by Dr. Cullen £0.7.6.

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[184] William Green (d. 1786 or 1787), 'gentleman' in Avon Street.
[185] Philip Debell Tuckett (1749–1816), Quaker and merchant.
[186] Dr. Robert Cooper applied to replace Dr. Arthur Broughton at the Bristol Royal Infirmary in 1783, but he entered too late and retired before the poll.
[187] Wine merchant in 137 Redcliff Street, and member of the Steadfast Society. The Caves were a major commercial family in Bristol.
[188] A pupil at the Bristol Royal Infirmary. Dedicated his MA dissertation, written at Leiden University (1779), to William Barrett. Applied to replace Dr. Broughton at the Infirmary in 1783, but lost narrowly to Dr. Edward Long Fox. See *Bristol Royal Infirmary*, pp. 70–1, 434–5.
[189] Bellows and brush maker in 7 Narrow Wine Street.
[190] Joseph Metford (1755–1833), surgeon, who succeeded James Norman at the Bristol Royal Infirmary in 1783. Resigned in 1796. Quaker and Whig. Purchased an estate at Axminster later in life.
[191] Most likely the wife of the 'gentleman' John Maud in 27 Orchard Street, who was a member of the library.

2. Resolved that no purchases be made exceeding the Annual Income but by the consent of a majority of the whole committee specially summoned. Vide General Meeting Book folio 11.
3. Ordered that Mr. Paty be desired to attend at the next Committee.

[302] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 April 1787**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ford, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Berjew.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

N. Testamentum Gr. Millii et Kusteri
Suggestions for rendering the Inclosure of Common Fields & Waste Lands a Source of population & Riches.
Ignoramus, new Edition with notes &c.
Schomberg's Treatise on the maritime Laws of Rhodes 8vo. £0.2.0.
Euripides á Musgrave 4 vol. 4to.
Aeschylus á Pauw 2 vol. 4to.
Sophocles á Brunck 2 vol. 4to.

Mr. George Catcott having requested that the copy of his Brother's Treatise on the Deluge, which he presented to the Library Society in March 1783, be returned to him agreed that the Librarian be desired to return to him the said Book, as there is a duplicate of it in the Library.

[303] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 April 1787**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Hunter upon absorbent vessels £0.16.0.
Royal Letters
Chronique de Froissart – Robson's Catal. 1375. £2.2.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 1 May 1787
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ford, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Gilpin's Northern Tour 2 vol. 8vo.
Sr John Hawkins's Life of Johnson

[304] **At a meeting of the Committee, 15 May 1787**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ford, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Eagles.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

History & Antiquities of Southwell
New Edition of the Tatler with Notes &c.

2. A Gentleman having proposed to rent the lower room of the New Building for a Counting-House for seven years certain, It is Agreed to take his proposal into further consideration at the next committee.

At a meeting of the Committee, 29 May 1787
Present: Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward.

[305] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 June 1787**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Dyer, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Horne Tooke's Diversions of Purley
Translation of the Bishop London de sacra Poesi Hebraeorum
The Lounger 3 vol.
Polwhele's Theocritus

[306] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 June 1787**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ward, Mr. Eagles, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Ford.

1. Resolved that the Room on the ground floor of the new Building at the Library be fitted up at the expence of the Society according to the Proposals delivered in the 12th instant by the Messrs. Lowbridge & Richard Bright, with this difference, that the upright Iron Bars to all the windows be put up at the expence of Messrs. Lowbridge & Richard Bright, who, at the expiration of the Term, if not allowed for them according to Estimate, shall be at liberty to remove them: That Messrs. Lowbridge & Richard Bright have permission, at their own expence to divide the said Room by a partition, put in a stove, and an Iron Safe for the Books, Desks &c. &c., and to remove the same at their pleasure, making good the walls & the floor: That they have liberty for themselves Clerks or Servants to pass through the Courtyard, before the Library, to and from the Door in the partition, near the Librarian's Kitchen, at all times, for the purposes of opening, and shutting the windows and doors of the Room, (it being understood that the common way to the Room, except for these purposes, shall be through the door, to be opened near the Almshouse) and be furnished with a Key to the door of the passage leading from the Courtyard to the Librarian's Kitchen: That they be put into possession of the said Room &c. completely finished & painted, on or before the 28th of September next, for the Term of Fourteen years, the first seven of which to be certain; but that it shall, for the latter seven years, be at the option of the Library Society or their Committee to resume the possession for the uses of the Library, but [307] not for the purpose of letting, at the expiration of any one year, on giving twelve months notice; and that in the same manner, it shall be at the option of Messrs. Lowbridge &

Richard Bright to quit, on giving the like notice: and that the Rent commence the 29th. of September next at Twenty Guineas p[er] annum free of Taxes.

2. Resolved that Mr. James West, Messrs. Jenkins & Lovell, and Mr. Stocking be employed to fit up the said Room according to the Particulars which they have severally handed in for that purpose.

We James West, Jenkins & Lovell, and J. Stocking do hereby agree to fit up the Room on the Ground floor of the New Building at the Library according to the Proposals & Estimates delivered in by us to the Library Committee for the respective sums following viz:
James West Masons work, including necessary, for Twenty four Pounds thirteen Shillings –
Jenkins & Lovell Carpenters[192] work for Fifty seven Pounds six shillings, and J. Stocking Plaistering Painting &c. for seven Pounds thirteen shillings.

James West
Richard Jenkins

[308] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 July 1787**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Ford, Mr. Dyer, John Garnett Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Asiatic Miscellanies
Philosophical Transactions Vol. 76. Pt. 2d & vol. 77 &c.
Bishop of Cloyne's Present State of the Church of Ireland

[309] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 July 1787**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ford, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Berjew.

1. Ordered that the Abbé Clavigero's History of Mexico, translated by Charles Cullen Esq. 4to. be sent for.

2. Agreed that a Gallery supported by Pillars of cast Iron be erected in the New Room, that it project four feet from the Base, that its floor be ten feet from the floor of the Room, and that the stair case leading to it be circular and placed near the Door.

[310] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 August 1787**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Berjew

Ordered that Baron Riesbeck's Travels through Germany be sent for.

[311] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 August 1787**

[192] Carpenters in Frog Lane.

Present: Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Berjew, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

1. Resolved that Mr. William Griffiths[193] and Messrs. Jenkins & Lovell be employed to erect the Gallery in the New Room according to the Particulars which they have severally handed in for that purpose.

2. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Dodsley's Annual Register for 1784 & 1785.
Jebb's Works 3 vol. 8vo
Travels in N. America by the Marquis de Chastellux 8vo. 2 vol. £0.12.0.
Murphy's Works 5 vol.
Remarks on the Travels of the Marquis de Chastellux.

At a meeting of the Committee, 4 September 1787
Present: Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward.

[312] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 September 1787**
Present: Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Berjew.

At a meeting of the Committee, 2 October 1787
Present: Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Ward, Mr. Berjew.

[313] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 October 1787**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Dr. Ford, Mr. Ward, Mr. Berjew, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Macknight's Harmony of the Gospels 4to
Bellendeni de Statu Libri tres. 8vo. £0.12.0.
Volney's Travels thro' Syria & Egypt
Osbeck's Voyage to China & the East Indies by Forster 2 vol. 8vo
Colman's Prose on several occasions 3 vol. 8vo.
The Emperor's New Code of Criminal Laws £0.2.6.

[314] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 October 1787**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ward, Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Dr. Ford, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

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[193] The directories give three individuals of this name operating in Bristol during this period, of whom the most likely candidates given the ironwork that may have been involved in erecting the Gallery are an anchorsmith in 23 Princes Street (*Directory 1793–4*) and a brightsmith on the Key (*Directory 1775*). The confectioner of this name operating out of 12 Peter Street is a much more remote possibility; *Directory 1775*.

1. Agreed that the Gallery be carried on over the Door to the Window, similar to the other side.

2. Ordered that the following Books be sent for
Withering's Botany New Edition – 2 vol.
Curtis's Introduction to Botany Quarto

[315] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 November 1787**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bowdler's Poems & Essays
Edmondson's Complete Body of Heraldry 2 vol. folio
Memoirs relative to the State of India by W. Hastings Last Edition

[316] **At a meeting of the Committee, 27 November 1787**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Dr. Ford, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Berjew, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward, Dr. Plomer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Stuart's Antiquities of Athens vol. 2^{d}
Translation of Preface to Bellendenus with Remarks £0.3.6.

2. Agreed that the Gallery Rails be two feet nine Inches high.

[317] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 December 1787**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Ford, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Ward, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Berjew.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Essays on several Subjects by Dr. B. Franklyn [i.e. Franklin] 1787.
Collection of ancient Poems with Dissertations 2 vol.

2. Ordered that a Fire be constantly kept in the New Room, and that Mr. Griffiths be desired to lend a Stove for that purpose.

3. Agreed that Mr. Griffiths be desired to attend at the next Committee to give his opinion with respect to the best methods of warming the New Room.

4. Agreed that the next Meeting be on Thursday the 27th of December at six o'clock in the evening.

[318] **At a meeting of the Committee, 27 December 1787**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Dr. Ford, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Ward, Dr. Plomer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Reports of the Commissioners of the Public Accounts vol 3^{d}.
Philosophical Transactions vol. 77th. Part 2^{d}
Herbert's History of Printing in England vol. 2^{d}. 4to
Chess, by Twiss 8vo. £0.5.0.
Chroniques de Froissart 4 tom. in Hayes's Catal no. 880
Dr. Watson's Chemistry vol. 5th.

2. Agreed that the Committee be summoned to attend on Tuesday the eighth of January on particular business.

[319] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 January 1788**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Ward, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Broughton.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Whitaker's Defence of Mary Queen of Scots 3 vol. 8vo
Transactions of the Society of Arts &c. vol. 5th 8vo
Pownall's Observations on the Currents in the Atlantic Ocean 4to
Knox's Tour through the Highlands 8vo

2. Ordered that Mr. Paty be desired to consider whether the Gallery in the New Room can be safely supported by Brackets or other means instead of the present Pillars, and that he be desired to give his opinion and Plans at the next committee.

[320] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 January 1788**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Richard Bright Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ward.

Mr. Paty having reported to this committee that the Gallery may be safely supported by the Partitions of the Book cases and Brackets, agreed that Mr. Paty's Plan be adopted.

[321] **At a meeting of the Committee, 5 February 1788**
Present: Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ward, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. Broughton.

Agreed that Book cases be erected in the New Room according to the Plan produced this evening by Mr. Paty.

[322] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 February 1788**

Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

De Foe's History of the Union
Headley's Select Beauties of English Poetry – Cadell

2. Easter Monday this year falling on the 24th day of March (the usual day on which the General Meeting is held) Ordered that the meeting be postponed to Monday the 31st of March; and that advertisements be printed & summonses be sent to the subscribers accordingly.

[323] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 March 1788**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Ward, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Joseph Harford Esq.

[324] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 March 1788**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ward, Rev., Mr. Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

1. Agreed that the General Meeting be held on Monday the 31st this Month at the Bush Tavern at six o'clock in the Evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a Summons to each Subscriber, and by putting an advertisement in the Bristol Gazette of the 27th instant, also into Rudhall's Paper of the 22nd & 29th.

2. The Rev. Dr. Stonhouse[194] having presented his Sick Man's Friend to the Library society, Ordered that the Thanks of the Society be given to the Rev. Dr. Stonhouse for the same.

3. Richard Bright Esq. has transferred one of his shares in the Library to the Rev. Francis Randolph.[195]

4. Mrs. Jane Milton[196] has transferred her late Brother's Mr. Joseph Barnsdale's[197] Property in the Library to Mrs. Mary Adams.[198]

5. Dr. Samuel Cave has retransferred his Property in the Library to his Brother Mr. Thomas Cave.

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[194] See edition n.85.
[195] Rev. Francis Randolph (1752–1831). See introduction.
[196] Not the wife of the committee member Rev. William Milton, who was married to Mary Milton (née Gresley). Possibly the wife of John Milton, painter.
[197] Possibly a descendant of William Barnsdale (d. 1748), deputy sword bearer in Bristol, and sheriff in 1730–1; see Beaven, *Bristol Lists*, pp. 239, 277.
[198] Possibly a haberdasher in 11 Redcliff Street, and possibly subscriber to the first edition of Mary Deverell, *Sermons on the Following Subjects* (London, 1774), sold by Thomas Cadell at Bristol.

6. Mr. John H. Bovet[199] & Mrs. Sarah Bovet[200] his wife, only sister & adm[inistratri]x of James Kirkpatrick Esq. deceased, have transferred all their Property in the Bristol Library Society, as lately belonging to the said James Kirkpatrick, to Samuel Worrall Jr Esq.[201]

7. Audited the Treasurer's Account for the present year, by which is appear that a Balance of One hundred & eighteen Pound three shillings remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account.

[325] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 April 1788**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ward, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

At a meeting of the Committee, 15 April 1788
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Berjew.

1. Ordered that Mr. Barrett's History & Antiquities of the City of Bristol be subscribed for.

2. Ordered that the Rev. John Collinson's History of the County of Somerset be subscribed for.

3. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Miss More's Poem on the Slave Trade
Mrs. Yearsley's Poem on the Slave Trade
Bacon's Liber Regis £1.10.0.
Gilpin's Northern Tour 2nd Edition
Holcroft's Life of Baron Trenck
Lewesdon Hill, a Poem £0.2.6.

4. Resolved that no Purchases be made exceeding the Annual Income but by the consent of a Majority of the whole Committee specially summoned. Vide General Meeting Book folio 11.

[326] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 April 1788**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Piozzi's Letters
Observer vol. 4th
Sketches of Society & Manners in Portugal by William Arthur Costigan.

[199] Probably an attorney based in Taunton, Somerset; see *To the Honorable the Commissioners of His Majesty's Stamp Duties* (London, 1798), p. 113.
[200] Unidentified.
[201] Town clerk.

Sepulchral Monuments in Great Britain applied to illustrate the History of Families, Manners, Habits & Arts at the different Periods from the Norman Conquest to the 17th Century.
Brother Peter to Brother Tom.
Randolph's Letter to Mr. Pitt on the Slave Trade
Gibbon's History of the Decline & Fall of the Roman Empire vol. 4th. 5th & 6th.

[327] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 May 1788**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ward, Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bowdler's Letters in Holland £0.5.0.
Wren's Parentalia, £2.2.0. Faulder's Catal.[202] No. 875

[328] **At a meeting of the Committee, 27 May 1788**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Concordance to Shakespeare
Whitehead's Poems with his Life by Mason
Variety of the human Species

2. Ordered that the Pillars in the New Room, and Gallery Rails, be painted of a Flake white colour; And that the cieling [*sic*] under the Gallery be painted in compartiments [*sic*], resembling in Colour Dutch Oak.

3. Ordered that Dr. Plomer the Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin & Mr. Eagles be desired to get the present chimney piece in the New Room taken down, as being too small, and another put up as expeditiously as possible; and such other alterations made respecting the Ballustrades [*sic*] as they shall think proper.

[329] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 June 1788**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ward, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Berjew, Joseph Smith Esq.

[330] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 June 1788**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Ward, Mr. Eagles, Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Olla Podrida
Present State of the Empire of Morocco

[202] Robert Faulder (1747–1815), bookseller, who traded in New Bond Street between 1780 and 1811; *BBTI*.

Ramsay's History of the Revolution in South Carolina
Fullarton's View of the English Interests in India
Kippis's Life of Captain James Cook
Antient metaphysics by Lord Monboddo, last volume
2. Ordered that the upper Shelf next under the Gallery be so placed as to permit the Two upper Rows of Books to be Octavos.

3. Agreed that Jenkins & Lowell's Proposals for Book Cases in the Gallery be accepted, including Shelves to the corner of the Gallery behind the stairs.

[331] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 July 1788**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

The Life of Lord Herbert of Cherbury, written by himself
Lord Herbert's History of Henry VIII.
Falconer's Dissertation on the Influence of the Passions upon the Disorder of the Body £0.2.0.
Pownall's Antiquities of the Provincia Romana of Gaul £0.10.6.

2. Ordered that Mr. John Paine Berjew be desired with the Librarian to examine the State of the unbound Books, and to get as many of them bound as they shall think proper.

3. Ordered that Mr. Griffiths be desired to make a Register Stove for the New Room.

[332] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 July 1788**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Peter's Pension
The Progresses of Queen Elizabeth, £3.3.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 5 August 1788
Present: Dr. Plomer, Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles.

[333] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 August 1788**
Present: Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Eagles, Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Account of the Pelew Islands
Microcosm

Major Rennell's Memoir of a map of Hindostan
Memoirs of Boruwlaski
Lavater vol. 3d.

At a meeting of the Committee, 2 September 1788
Present: Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles

[334] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 September 1788**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Letters on Greece by Savary
Berington's History of the Lives of Abeillard & Heloisa
Berington's State & Behaviour of English Catholics, from the Reformation to the year 1781
Geddes's Prospectus of a new Translation of the Holy Bible, with the appendix.
Hobbes's Works

At a meeting of the Committee, 30 September 1788
Present: Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Ward, Joseph Smith Esq.

[335] **At a meeting of the Committee, 14 October 1788**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

At a meeting of the Committee, 28 October 1788
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ward, Mr. Berjew.

[336] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 November 1788**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ward, Mr. Berjew, Joseph Smith Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Dodsley's Annual Register for 1786
Necker on the Importance of Religious Opinions
Grose's Military Antiquities 2 vol. 4to. £4.4.0.
Pennant's Works in Natural History in Quarto.

Ordered that Pennant's British Zoology 4 vol. 8vo now in the Library be returned to Mr. White.

At a meeting of the Committee, 25 November 1788
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ward, Mr. Eagles.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Memoirs of the Late King of Prussia by Dr. Towers
Archaeologia vol. VIII.

2. Ordered that Mr. Griffiths be required to remove the Grate from the New Room.

3. Ordered that Mr. Griffiths be desired to attend at the next committee.

4. Ordered that the Librarian be desired to make a General Alphabetical Catalogue of the Books belonging to the Society.[203]

[337] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 December 1788**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Joseph Smith Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Foot's Dramatic Works
Harmer's Observations Vol. 3 & 4. 8vo. £0.13.0.
Philosophical Transactions vol. 78. part 1st
Transactions of the Society &c. vol. 6th 8vo
Origins & Progress of Language vol. 4th 8vo

2. Ordered that Mr. Street's Version of the Book of Psalms be subscribed for.

At a meeting of the Committee, 23 December 1788
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Mr. Eagles, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Dr. Plomer.

[338]
At a meeting of the Committee, 6 January 1789
Present: Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica No. 37 – 48
Philosophical Transactions vol. 78. Part 2d
Walpole's Anecdotes of Painting vol. 5th
Horda Angel – Cynnan vol. 3d. or Supplement
Supplement to Grose's Antiquities

2. Ordered that Mrs. Charlotte Smith's Poems be subscribed for.

3. Ordered that a Door be placed at the Entrance of the area before the Librarian's Kitchen.

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[203] *Catalogue 1790.*

[339] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 January 1789**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. Ward.

At a meeting of the Committee, 3 February 1789
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ward, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Berjew, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that Arnold's Observations on the Nature & Causes of Insanity, 2 vol. £0.12.0. be sent for.

[340] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 February 1789**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Mr. Eagles, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Ward, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

A Journey thro' the Crimea to Constantinople by Lady Craven £0.18.0.
Dr. Priestley's Lectures on History £1.1.0.
Anglicarum Rerum Scriptores, cura Fell & Gale, 3 vol. £3.3.0., Oxon. 1684 &c. Catal. No. 762
Anglicanae Historica Scriptores decem, cura Twysden, cum Glossario Somneri 2 vol. £2.12.6. Lond. 1652 W[hite]. Cat. No. 763
Anglicarum Recrum Scriptres post Bedam, cd. Opt. £0.15.0., Fraucos. 1601 W. Catal. No. 764

2. Ordered that the Two Cabinets containing Mr. Catcott's Fossils[204] be removed into the New Library.

3. Resolved that the next General Meeting be held in the New Room at the Library.

[341] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 March 1789**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Joseph Smith Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ward, Mr. Eagles.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Commodere Byron's Narrative of his first Voyage 8vo. £0.5.0.
Analytical Review, from the Commencement
Original Anecdotes of Peter the Great 8vo. £0.6.0.
Dixon's Voyage round the World 4to. £1.1.0.

[204] Catcott's two cabinets of fossils were one of the first public displays of fossils in the country. They were later transferred to the Bristol Museum, and destroyed in World War II. See Michael Neve and Roy Porter, 'Alexander Catcott: Glory and Geology', *British Journal for the History of Science*,10 (1977), pp. 37–60.

2. Agreed that the General Meeting be held on Monday the 23d of this Month in the New Room at the Library at six o'clock in the Evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a summons to each Subscriber, and by putting an Advertisement into the Bristol Gazette & into Rudhall's Paper immediately preceding the General Meeting.

3. Agreed that the Treasurer be desired to pay Messrs. Jenkins & Lowell the sum of Ninety Eight Pounds ten shillings & 6d for Carpenters Work done at the new Room at the Library.

4. Agreed that the Treasurer be desired to pay Mr. William Griffiths the Sum of Thirty Six Pounds ten Shillings; and that the Pillars be returned to the Library.

5. Agreed that the Treasurer be desired to pay Mr. James West the Sum of Three Pounds five Shillings & 7d and that the original Chimney Piece be returned to the Library.

6. Agreed that the Treasurer be desired to pay Mr. Thomas Stocking the Sum of Ten Pounds seven shillings.

7. Agreed that the Treasurer be desired to pay Mr. Thomas Paty & Sons the Sum of Twenty Three Pounds.

8. Ordered that the Catalogue of the Books belonging to the Society be printed in Octavo; and that one side of each Leaf be blank.

[342] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 March 1789**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Munckley, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson.

1. The Treasurer, in compliance with the Direction of the Committee of the 3 March, has paid Messrs. Jenkins & Lovell Ninety Eight Pounds ten Shillings, Mr. William Griffiths Thirty Six Pounds ten Shillings, Mr. Thomas Stocking Ten Pounds Seven Shillings & Messrs. T. Paty & Sons Twenty Three Pounds; the amount of their respective notes for work done in and about the New Library Room.

2. The Treasurer has paid Two Pounds nine Shillings & Six pence to Mr. James West Mason, who allowed Sixteen Shillings for the Original Chimney Piece which he had sold before he was informed of the 5th Resolution of the Committee of the 3d of this month.

3. Mr. Nehemiah Bartley has transferred his Property in the Library to Richard Nelmes Esq.[205]

[205] In 6 Kings Square. Since he does not appear to have been an office holder, 'Esq.' is an indication of gentry status and land ownership.

4. Dr. John Ford has transferred his Property in the Library to Mr. Thomas Griffiths.[206]

5. John Scandrett Harford Esq.,[207] only Brother & Administrator of Charles Edward Harford Esq.[208] Deceased, has transferred the Property in the Bristol Library Society, lately belonging to the said Charles Edward Harford, to his Father Edward Harford Esq.[209]

6. Mr. William Barrett has transferred his Property in the Library to Mr. Thomas Shellard.[210]

7. Mr. John Champion has transferred his Property in the Library to Mr. George Webb Hall.[211]

8. Audited the Treasurer's Account for the present year, by which it appears that a Balance of Twenty Nine Pounds Eight Shillings & Six pence remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account.

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[206] Thomas Griffiths (1761–1838), resident apothecary at the Bristol Royal Infirmary between 1783 and 1789. A doctor, but did not style himself as such as a rule. Tory and member of the Steadfast Society and the Dolphin Society. Retired to Westbury.

[207] John Scandrett Harford (1754–1815), merchant and a leading partner in the Harford bank until his death. Lived at Brunswick Square, Bristol, until he bought the Blaise Castle Estate in 1789. Left nearly £300,000 upon his death. Had nine children.

[208] The Harfords were a major commercial and Quaker family.

[209] Edward Harford (1720–1806), merchant and banker in St James.

[210] Pupil at the Bristol Royal Infirmary. Sought to succeed Edward Bridges as Apothecary of the Infirmary in 1774, but was unsuccessful.

[211] Attorney in High Street.

[155–1] **At a meeting of the Committee, 31 March 1789**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Ward, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Parkinson's System of Mechanics & Hydrostatics 4to.
Hume's Essays

2. Resolved that no purchases be made exceeding the annual income but by the consent of a majority of the whole Committee specially summoned. Vide General Meeting Book folio 11.

At a meeting of the Committee, 14 April 1789
Present: The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

The Trifler £0.7.6.
The Court of Requests by Hutton 8vo.
Callimachus – Ernesti
Longinus – Toupii
Strabo Almeloveni 2 Tom. folio

[2] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 April 1789**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. William Dyer, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Laws of William the Conqueror by Kelham
Howard on Lazarettos
Russell's Poems
Dr. Cullen's Materia Medica
Original Letters by Fenn vol. 3 & 4.
Memoirs of Countess de la Motte 8vo. £0.10.6.
Hutton's History of the Battle of Bosworth Field &c.
Anecdotes by Mr. Andrews £0.5.0.

[3] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 May 1789**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Mr. Dyer, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ward.

1. Ordered the following Books be sent for

The Copy of Strabo Almeloveni, 2 Tom. fol. offered by Mr. White for £2.15.0.

Browne's (William) Britannia's Pastorals &c. New Edition
Gough's Camden's Britannia

2. Ordered that Three hundred & fifty copies of the catalogue of the Books belonging to the Society be printed.

At a meeting of the Committee, 26 May 1789
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Broughton.

[4] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 June 1789**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. Munckley, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ward, Mr. Berjew, Mr. Eagles.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bent's General Catalogue of Books published in London from the year 1700.
Bishop Rundle's Letters

2. Ordered that Messrs. Berjew, Eagles & Milton be desired to give Directions for furnishing the New Library with Tables and Chairs.

At a meeting of the Committee, 23 June 1789
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. Ward.

Ordered that Tench's Narrative of Expedition to Botany Bay be sent for.

[5] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 July 1789**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Piozzi's Travels thro' France, Italy & Germany 2 vol.
Tracts in Controversy with Dr. Priestley by Bp. Horsley
Pancirollus, de rebus perdites & inventis
Polydore Vergil, de rerum inventoribus

At a meeting of the Committee, 21 July 1789
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Joseph Smith Esq.

[6] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 August 1789**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ward, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Sheridan on Reading vol. 2.
Travels in Switzerland in a Series of Letters to William Melmoth from William Coxe 1789. 3 vol.
Annales Eliae de Trickingham monachi ordinis Benedictini ex bibliotheca Lamethana. S. Pegge £0.5.0.
History of the Members of the French Academy by D'Alembert

At a meeting of the Committee, 18 August 1789
Present: Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Farmer on Shakespeare
Oeuvres Posthumes de Frederic II. Roi de Prusse 15 Tom. 4. 4. 0.

[7] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 September 1789**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

At a meeting of the Committee, 15 September 1789
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell]. Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ward.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Strutt's regal & ecclesiastical antiquities of England.
Travels thro' the Interior Parts of America by an Officer £0.14.0.
Tracts by Warburton & a Warburtonian £0.5.0.
A new & literal Translation of Juvenal & Persius £0.12.0.
Amoenitates Academicae

[8] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 September 1789**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell]. Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles.

At a meeting of the Committee, 13 October 1789
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ward, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Mr. Broughton.

At a meeting of the Committee, 27 October 1789
Present: Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Zeluco 2 vol.
Transactions of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts &c. vol. 7th.
Burney's General History of Music vol. 3 & 4. 4to.
Philosophical Transactions vol. 79th part first.

[9] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 November 1789**
Present: Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Broughton.

At a meeting of the Committee, 24 November 1789
Present: Richard Bright Esq., Dr. Plomer, Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Archaeologia vol. 9th. 4to.
Jardine's Letters from Barbary
Annual Register for 1787
Governor Phillips's Account of the Expedition to Botany Bay
Cooper's Tracts, Ethical Theological & Political 8vo
Essays Philosophical Historical & Literary 8vo.
Davy's Letters on Subjects of Literature 2 vol.

[10] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 December 1789**
Present: The Rev. the Dean [Dr. Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ward, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Smith Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Accounts & Extracts of the Manuscripts in the Library of the King of France, 2 vol. 8vo
Philosophical Transactions, vol. 79th – part 2d
Falconer on the Influence of Climate &c. on mankind
Antiquarian Repertory No. 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48.
Rennell's Map of the Countries situated between the Head of the Indus & the Caspian Sea. £1.1.0. coloured.
Dr. Campbell's Translation with notes c. of the Four Gospels 2 vol. in 4to. £2.2.0. in Boards.
Shepherd's Sermons at Bampton's Lecture.

[11] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 December 1789**
Present: Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bandinel's Bampton Lectures
Gisborne's Answer to Paley 2 vol. 8vo

2. Resolved that the Librarian be desired to inquire at what Price a good copy of Viner's Abridgement of Law & Equity can be purchased.

3. Ordered that Rennell's map of Hindoostan be pasted on Canvas and put on Rollers.

[12] **At a meeting of the Committee, 5 January 1790**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Joseph Smith Esq.

1. Ordered that Ogden's Sermons be sent for.

2. Resolved that the following Books be distinguished in the Catalogue by a Cross prefixed to them: And that they be taken out of the Library under such restrictions as shall be determined by a future Committee.

Ainsworth's Dictionary, 2 vol. fol.
Vetus Testamentum Hebraicum, a B. Kennicott, 2 Tom. fol.
Blair's Tables of Chronology & History fol.
Blackwell's Herbal, 2 vol. fol.
Caesar's Commentaries, by Duncan fol.
Catesby's Natural History of Carolina, 2 vol. fol.
Chambers's Cyclopaedia, by Reev, 5 vol. fol.
Plates to Cook & King's Voyages fol.
Curtis's Flora Londinensis fol.
Cozens's Principles of Beauty fol.
Description des Pierres Gravées du cab[inet] de le Duc d'Orleans fol.
Designs & Descriptions of the machines of the Society of Arts, &c. 2 vol. fol.
Domesday Book, 2 vol. fol.
Dugdale, Monasticon, Anglicanum, 3 vol. fol.
Supplement to Dugdale's monasticon Anglicanum, by Stevens, 2 vol. fol.
[13] Encyclopédie, 35 Tom. fol.
Du Fresne Glossarium, cum Supplements, 10 Tom. fol.
Hamilton, Schola Italica Picturae fol.
Hearne & Byrne's Antiquities of Great Britain, 10 numbers
Hickesii Linguar vet Sept thesarus, 2 vol. fol.
Hill's Nat. History of Fossils fol.
Hill's Nat. History of Plants fol.
Jacob's Law Dictionary fol.
Inigo Jones's Designs by Kent, 2 vol. fol.
Johnson's Dictionary, 2 vol. fol.
Junii Etymologicum Anglicanum, E. Lye fol.
Knorr, Lapifes, Diluvii Universalis Testes, 5 Tom. fol.
Loggan, Oxonia Illustrata fol.
Lye Dictionarium Saxonico et Gothics Latinum, à Manning, 2 Tom. fol.
Mackenzie's maritim Survey of Ireland & the West of Great Britain, 2 vol. fol.
MS. Containing a particular Account of a Curious Cobweb, of Penparkhole &c. &c. &c. 4to.
^+^[212] Missale Romanum, Codex membraneus, cum litteris initialibus & figuris depictis aurog exornatis.

[212] The + sign probably indicates that the title is running for more than one line in the manuscript. It is unlikely to be a † (dagger) sign, which in Bristol's catalogues for 1790 and 1798 refers to books not to be taken out of the library.

Marmora Oxoniensia, edita à Ric. Chandler fol.
Miller, Illustratio Systematis sexualis Linnaei fol.
Montfaucon, l'Antiquité expliquée et representee en Figures V Tom. 10 Vol. fol.
Supplement au Livre de l'Antiquité expliquée, &c. V Tom. fol.
Ovid's Metamorphoses, Lat. & Eng. with Picart's Cuts, 2 vol. fol.
Robert, Atlas universel fol.
^+^[213] Roll, containing a List of the Mayors, Prepositors, Bayliffs & Sheriffs of Bristol, &c.
Rowley's Poems, with some Transcripts from his Prose MSS. 8vo.
Ruins of Palmyra; Balbei, Diocletian's Palace at Spalatro, & Paestum in Magna Graecia; Les plus beaux monuments de la Grece, Overlake Reliquiae Antiquitae Urbis Romeae, and Ionian Antiquities, 7 vol. fol.
Rymeri Foedera, 20 Tom. fol.
Sloane's Nat. History of Jamaica, 2 vol. fol.
Stephani (R.) Latinae Linguae Thesaurus, 4 vol. fol.
Stephani (H) Thesaurus Linguae Graecae, 6 vol. fol.
Appendix ad Thesaur. Graecae Linguae al Stephano, D. Scott, 2 vol. fol.
Stuart's Antiquities of Athens fol.
Tanner, Notitia Monastica fol.
Testamentum Syriace 4to.
Vitruvius Britannicus, 5 vol. fol.
Voyage Pittoresque de la Grece fol.

[14] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 January 1790**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Howell's Journal of a Route from India thro' Mesopotamia, Armenia & Natolia 8vo. £0.5.0.
Fuller's Worthies of England – Egerton No. 567- £3.3.0.
Rural Oeconomy of Glostershire [*sic*] 2 vol. 8vo. £0.14.0.
Froissart
Chroniques de Monstrelet – Egerton 3 Tom. No. 2197 - £3.3.0.
Stuart's Antiquities of Athens vol. 2^{d}.
Answer to Parr on Warburtoniana

2. Ordered that the Vice President be requested to inquire of Mr. Fletcher Bookseller in Oxford at what Price a good copy of Viner's Abridgement of Law & Equity can be purchased.

[15] **At a meeting of the Committee, 2 February 1790**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

[213] Ibid.

Viner's Abridgement of Law & Equity – Egerton £31.10.0.
Virgilius ab Heyme, 4 vol. 1788. White's Catal. No. 5572
General Index to the Philosophical Transactions

At a meeting of the Committee, 16 February 1790
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

[16] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 March 1790**
Present: The Dean [Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ward, Mr. John Paine Berjew. Richard Bright Esq.

[17] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 March 1790**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. F. Ward, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Dr. Plomer.

1. Agreed that the General Meeting be held on Monday the 22d. of this month in the New Room at the Library at six o'clock in the Evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a Summons to each subscriber, and by putting an Advertisement into the Bristol Gazette of the 18th instant, and into Rudhall's Paper of next Saturday.

2. Agreed that a List of the Subscribers be sent to each Subscriber with the Summons to the General Meeting.

3. John Garnett Esq. has transferred his Property in the Library Society to Mrs. Coulson.[214]

4. Francis Durouse Esq.,[215] Executor of Daniel Crespin Esq. Decd, has transferred the Property in the B. Library Society, lately belonging to the said Dr. Crespin, to Miss Grace Blackwood.[216]

5. Mr. Nathaniel Brice[217] has transferred his Property in the B. Library Society to his nephew Mr. Samuel Brice.[218]

6. Mr. John Daniel[219] has transferred his Property in the B. Library Society to Mr. John Cave Jr[220]

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[214] Unidentified.
[215] London lawyer. The will of Daniel Crespin identifies as one of his executors Francis Durouse Esq., of 'Messrs Francis Durouse and John Barnard of College Street Westminster'; TNA PROB11/1180/277.
[216] In Clifton Down. Possibly the daughter of Leeson Blackwood, merchant in Somersetshire. Named as the second executor of Crespin's will, but with no explanation given as to her connection to him.
[217] Sugar refiner in Old Market.
[218] In Old Market. The nephew of Nathaniel Brice. Both might be related to Edward Brice Esq., member of the Common Council.
[219] Possibly a painter in 17 Old King Street.
[220] John Cave, Jr (1765–1842). Glass and vitriol manufacturer. President of the Dolphin Society in 1814. Son of library member John Cave (1736–1800). Part of a major commercial family in Bristol.

7. Mr. John Bayly,[221] Executor of Mr. Thomas Woodall[222] Decd, has transferred the Property in the B. Library Society, lately belonging to the said Mr. Woodall, to Mr. William Bulgin.[223]

8. Audited the Treasurer's Account for the present year, by which it appears that a Balance of nineteen shillings and five pence remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's Account.

[18] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 March 1790**
Present: Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Ward, Rev. Thomas Broughton.

1. Ordered that Taylor on Sines Tangents & Logarithms £3.3.0. be subscribed for.

2. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Memoirs & Travels of Maurice Augustus Count de Benyowsky £2.2.0.
Hesiodi quae supersunt Gr. & Lat. Robinsoni 4to Oxon. £1.1.0. White's Catal. No. 2078.
Voyage du jeune Anacharsis
Memoires de MonSr Le Duc de S. Simon 3 Tom. 8vo
Polybius Gronovii 1670. £2.2.0. White's Catal. No. 4874
Original Letters of Madam Eliz. Of Bavaria &c. in French 2 vol.

3. Ordered that a Table be set up in the New Room, containing the names of the contributors Towards the Building thereof; Agreeably to the tenth Resolution of the general meeting March 31st. 1788.

4. The General Meeting having ordered that the Library be in future kept open five days in the week morning and evening at the accustomed hours, Resolved that Mr. Johnes be desired to report to the next Committee the names of two or more Gentlemen, that They may appoint one as Assistant to fulfil the intentions of the General Meeting.

[19] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 April 1790**
Present: Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Ward, Richard Bright Esq., Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Howard's Account of the Lazarettos
Bruce's Travels to the Source of the Nile 5 vol.
Observations made on a Tour from Bengal to Persia 1786–7. 8vo £0.6.0.
Gregoire's & Zalkind's Prize Essays

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221 Most likely an attorney in 16 Duke Street.
222 'Gentleman' in Clifton.
223 Printer and bookseller, in Broad Street and Wine Street.

[20] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 April 1790**
Present: Rev. Dr. Casberd Vice President, John Deverell, Esq. Treasurer, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright, Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Samuel Munckley, Dr. James Plomer, Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. Francis Ward.

The following Resolutions passed

1. That Mr. George Catcott be appointed Assistant to the Librarian for the purpose of the additional attendance required by the last General Meeting.

2. That a Stipend of Twenty Guineas be given for such assistance.

3. That the Assistant be expected to give his attendance at least Eighteen of the Thirty Hours of each Week.

4. That an additional Five Guineas be given to the Librarian, as Compensation for the extra Trouble to the servant.

[21] **At a meeting of the Committee, 27 April 1790**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward.

1. Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Magens's Essay on Insurances 2 vol. 4to

2. Resolved that the attention agreed on at the last General Meeting expecting the Library Hours commence on the first of June next, when Mr. Catcott's attendance will be required.

3. Resolved that the Librarian be desired to write to Messrs. Boydell[224] for a copy of their Proposals for Subscription to their intended Edition of Shakespeare's Works.

4. Resolved that the Librarian be desired to enquire on what Terms any or all of the works of J. Shirley[225] can be purchased.

5. Resolved that a Glass Partition and Door be erected in the Hall.

[22] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 May 1790**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward, Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton.

1. Ordered that the Library Society subscribe for a copy of Boydell's Edition of Shakespeare's Works.

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[224] John and Josiah Boydell, booksellers who traded in Pall Mall, London, between 1787 and 1804.
[225] I.e., James Shirley, or Sherley (1596–1666), playwright.

2. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Berington's History of the Reign of Henry II. & of Richard & John his sons, with the Events of the Period from 1154 to 1216.
Sutherland's Tour.

3. Resolved that Joseph Smith Esq. & Mr. Berjew be devised with the Librarian to examine the state of the Unbound Books, and to get as many of them bound as they shall think proper.

[23] **At a meeting of the Committee, 25 May 1790**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Mr. Eagles, Mr. Berjew, Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. William Milton, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Edmund Griffith Esq.

1. Agreed that the following Advertisement be inserted in the five Bristol Weekly Journals,
'The Bristol Library will be open from the first of June next, every day, (except Saturday) from Eleven in the Forenoon till Two, and from Six till Nine in the Evening. 25 May 1790.'

2. Agreed that all the Books belonging to the Bristol Library Society in the five following classes be deposited in the New Library; History, Philosophy, Mathematics, Belles-Lettres, Miscellanies.

[24] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 June 1790**
Present: Rev. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Ward, Mr. Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

The Bruce, a Poem by Barbour in XV Century, published by Pinkerton.
Guy's Voyage Literaire de la Grece, avec Figures, 4 Tom. Edward's Catal. £1.8.0.

2. Agreed to enquire the Price of the Athenian Letters.

[25] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 July 1790**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Mr. Seyer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Vaillant's Tour through the Interior Parts of Africa
Henry's History of Great Britain, Vol. 6th.
Blair's Sermons, Vol. 3^{d}.
Withering's Botanical Arrangement of British Plants, Vol. 3^{d}. Part 1st.
Loves of the Plants, a Poem
Mitford's History of Greece, Vol. 2^{2}.

2. Resolved that Fifty or Sixty Copies of the following Application be printed, and sent pasted in their new Catalogue to those Subscribers who have not contributed any thing to the new Library Room.

The Committee think it a Duty they owe the Society, to observe that the increasing number of Books, which renders this new Catalogue requisite, is a growing Proof of the necessity of the additional Building erected to receive them, and to request your Assistance in defraying the Expence it has occasioned.

[26] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 July 1790**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Dyer, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. Mr. Seyer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Ward, Mr. Berjew.

Ordered that the following Books

Asiatic Researches Vol. I.
Young's Annals of Agriculture No. 21 &c.
Medallic History of England to the Revolution 4to.

[27] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 August 1790**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Seyer, Mr. Ward.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Shirley's Plays
Remaining part of the 15th Volume of Ruffhead's Statutes at Large.

2. Agreed to enquire whether there be any collection of Tracts relative to the Douglas Cause.

3. As Copies of the last catalogue were not to be had by the Subscribers for some time before the present Catalogue was printed – that the like Inconvenience may not be again known – and that, if any Subscriber lose his Catalogue, he may be certain of procuring another, the Committee direct the Librarian to distribute none of the spare Catalogues lately printed to any Subscriber without Payment of Two Shillings and six pence for the same.

[28] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 August 1790**
Present: The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Rev. R. Collinson, Mr. Francis Ward, Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles.

Mr. Johnes is desired to return the Thanks of the society to Mr. Thomas Jarman[226] for his valuable Present of Xenophon.

At a meeting of the Committee, 31 August 1790

[226] Attorney in Duke Street. Later Master Extraordinary in the High Court of Chancery, appointed by the Lord Chancellor (*St James's Chronicle*, 16 May 1795).

Present: Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Mr. Seyer, Rev. Mr. Collinson.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Historical Account of the Germanic Empire, 3 Vol. 8vo
Ireland's Picturesque Tour thro' the Netherlands, 2 Vol.
Whitehurst's Attempt towards obtaining invariable Measures & Weights
The Life of Voltaire, 2 Vol.
Tour to the West Indies, 2 Vol.

2. Directed that the new Library Room be provided with a Bell.

[29] **At a meeting of the Committee, 14 September 1790**
Present: Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Mr. Seyer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles., Joseph Smith Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Cavallo on Electricity Vol. 2^{d}. 8vo
History of France, 3 Vol. 8vo £0.10.0.
Pennant's London
Jortin's Tracts
Cases in the House of Lords from 1713 to 1783, 22 Vol. of which 13 Vol. are bound in rough Calf, the other 9 Vol. are in Sheets £5.5.0.

[30] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 September 1790**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Mr. Seyer, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Smith Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Memoirs of the General Revolution in France in 1789, by Dillon 4to.
Grose on Ancient Armour and Weapons
South's Sermons
P. Pindar's Epistle to Bruce

At a meeting of the Committee, 12 October 1790
Present: Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Richard Collinson.

[31] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 October 1790**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward, Rev. Mr. Seyer, Edmund Griffith Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Sinclair's History of the Public Revenue Vol. 3^{d}.
Additions to the first Edit. of Mitford's History of Greece £0.2.0.
Sutherland's Tour from the Straits to Constantinople

D'Archenholz's Picture of England 2 Vol.
Burke on the French Revolution
D'Ohsson's General History of the Othoman [*sic*] Empire

[32] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 November 1790**
Present: Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. Thomas Eagle, Rev. Mr. Seyer, Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. W. Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Poetical Works of Henry James Pye Esq.
Dr. Geddes's new Translation of the Bible
Geddes's Macaronic Poem, with the Translation

[33] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 November 1790**
Present: The very Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Joseph Harford Esq., Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. Ward, Mr. Berjew.

1. Ordered that the Librarian be desired to insert the names of those Publications which have been received since the printing of the Catalogue in the blank Leaves of the Library Catalogue.

2. Ordered that a Bell be provided communicating from the New Room to the Hall of the Library.

3. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Whitaker's History of the Britons 8vo.
Brand's History of Newcastle

[34] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 December 1790**
Present: The very Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

MonSr Calonne's Letter
Malone's Shakespeare
Porson's Letters to Archdeacon Travis
Millar's History of the English constitution
Epigrams from the Greek of Brunck's Analecta.

[35] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 December 1790**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The very Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. Eagles, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Seyer, Mr. John Paine Berjew.

[36] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 January 1791**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Mr. Broughton, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Smith Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Eagles, Mr. Berjew, Rev. Mr. Seyer, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Aristotelis Opera, Du Val, 4 Tom. fol.
Bruckeri Historia Critica Philosophiae a mundi incunabulis ad nostrum usq Aetatem deducta, 6 Tom. 4to. Lipsiae 1766–7.
Pulteney's Progress of Botany in England
S. Vince's Treatise on Practical Astronomy, Camb. 4to. £0.15.0.
Letters on Love, Marriage, and Adultery, £0.2.6.
Hutton's Dissertation on Juries
Macdonald's Travels in Europe Asia & Africa 8vo. £0.4.0.
Bibliotheca Parisiana, £0.2.6.

[37] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 January 1791**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Mr. Eagles, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Mr. Collinson, Joseph Smith Esq., Rev. Mr. Seyer, Rev. Mr. William Milton.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

The Contrast, by Gordon, 2 Vol.
Priestley's Letters to Burke
L'Opera di N. Machiavelli

2. Agreed that Mr. Deverell's Letter of Resignation of the Office of Treasurer, addressed to the committee of the Bristol Library Society, be transcribed into this Book
'Gentlemen
The very indifferent state of my health not permitting me any longer to act as Treasurer or Committee-man of the Bristol Library Society, I must beg you to accept my resignation of those Offices, assuring you however that I shall, in every thing in my power, be happy at all times to promote the Interests & welfare of so laudable an Institution.
I am Gentlemen your very obedient humble servant.
John Deverell
Clifton
10 January 1791.'

[38] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 February 1791**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Francis Ward, Edmund Griffith Esq.

At a meeting of the Committee, 15 February 1791
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Joseph Smith Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Edmund Griffith

Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Mr. Collinson, Rev. Mr. Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Proceedings of the African Association for discovering the Interior parts of that continent.
View of England by Wendeborn, 2 Vol. £0.12.0.

[39] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 March 1791**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Joseph Smith Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. Thomas Broughton.

Agreed that the committee be summoned to attend at the Library on Tuesday the 15th of this month at Twelve o'clock, for the purpose of auditing the Treasurer's Accounts.

[40] **At an extraordinary meeting of the Committee, 15 March 1791**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Deverell], Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. William Dyer, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson.

Audited the Treasurer's Account for the present year, by which it appears that all the monies in his hands belonging to the Library Society have been expended; and that there remains a Debt of Sixteen Pounds Ten Shillings & six pence due to Mr. J. B. Becket.

[41] **At a meeting of the Committee, 15 March 1791**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Joseph Smith Esq., Joseph Harford.

1. Agreed that the General Meeting be held on Monday the 21st. of this month in the new Room at the Library at Six o'clock in the Evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a Summons to each Subscriber, and by putting an Advertisement into the Bristol Gazette of the 17th instant, and into Cole's Paper of next Saturday.[227]

2. Agreed that a List of the Subscribers, and a List of the Committee, be sent to each Subscriber with the Summons to the General meeting.

3. Mr. William Daniel[228] has transferred his Property in the Bristol Library Society to his Son Mr. Edward Daniel.[229]

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[227] See edition n.3 for Bristol's newspapers. J. Cole announced the purchase of Rudhall's interest in *Felix Farley's Bristol Journal* on 17 November 1790; Rudhall resumed control in March 1792; *BBTI*.
[228] Salesman in The Key.
[229] Attorney in Castle Green.

4. Mr. Robert Haynes[230] has transferred his Property in the B. Library Society to Mr. Samuel Henderson Jr[231]

5. Robert Kyrle Hutcheson Esq.[232] has transferred his Property in the B. Library Society to Mr. Thomas Cross.[233]

6. Mr. John Dupont has transferred his Property in the B. Library Society to the Rev. Thomas Clarke.[234]

7. Mr. Morgan Yeatman has transferred his Property in the B. Library Society to Mr. Thomas Webb Dyer.[235]

8. James Holder Esq.[236] has transferred his Property in the B. Library Society to John Savery Esq.[237]

9. The Rev. T. Ap. Jones[238] has transferred his Property in the B. Library Society to Mr. Charles Young.[239]

10. Richard Meyler Esq.[240] has transferred his Property in the B. Library Society to Mr. Charles Griffith.[241]

11. The Rev. William Berkin[242] has transferred his Property in the B. Library Society to his Brother Mr. Henry Berkin.[243]

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[230] Possibly an American merchant in 10 St James's Square.

[231] Merchant and son of Samuel Henderson Esq., sugar baker. Had at least one sister, who married James Goddard in 1782.

[232] Robert Kyrle Hutcheson was a library member, and author of *A Treatise on Excise and 'Qui Tam' Informations as they relate to Summary Proceedings before Justices of Peace* (Bristol, 1797) and *For Maltsters, Brewers, and Hop-Planters: All the Excise Laws and Adjudged Cases* (London, 1798). Committee member of the Scheme for forming an Inland Communication between Bristol, Bath, Salisbury, and other cities as part of the canal boom.

[233] Journalist in 8 St. James's Back. Writer for the *Bristol Gazette*.

[234] Possibly the vicar of Westbury between 1800 and 1817.

[235] Thomas Webb Dyer (d. 1833), apothecary in 63 Park Street, and son of William Dyer. Succeeded Griffiths as resident apothecary at the Bristol Royal Infirmary between 1789 and 1810. D.D. from King's College, Aberdeen, and president of the Dolphin Society in 1815.

[236] Voted in the Gloucestershire county election of 1776 as a tenant of Lady Compton; see *Gloucestershire Poll Book 1776*, p. 66.

[237] Banker in Orchard Street. 'Radical' leanings in the 1790s.

[238] Chaplain at the Bristol Royal Infirmary. Member of the Bear's Cub Club.

[239] Merchant in 14 Park Street. Sheriff in Bristol in 1793, and styled 'Esq.' after that.

[240] Richard Meyler Esq. (d. 1805), merchant and plantation owner. Father of Richard Meyler (1791–1818) of Crawley House, MP for Winchester in 1812–18.

[241] Possibly a descendant of Charles Griffiths, gardener in St. Philip and Jacob, listed in *Poll Book 1754*, p. 106.

[242] Son of William Berkin, Esq. Educated at Balliol, Oxford, and ordained as deacon by Samuel Horsley in 1789. *CCEd*.

[243] Brother of the Rev. William Berkin, and son of William Berkin Esq., 'gentleman'.

12. Mr. John Lewis[244] has transferred his Property in the B. Library Society to Mr. William Hole.[245]

[42] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 March 1791**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr. Francis Ward.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Voyages by John Meares 4to. £0.36.0.
Light of Nature pursued, by Edward Search Esq.[246] 5 Vol. 8vo

2. Agreed that the Librarian be requested to make out a List of those Books which are not completed, of which there are continuations lately published.

3. Agreed that the Committee be summoned to attend at the Library on Friday next, the first of April, at Six o'clock in the Evening, on particular business.

[43] **At an extraordinary meeting of the Committee, 1 April 1791**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Mr. John Paine Berjew.

[44] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 April 1791**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Edmund Griffith Esq., James Tobin Esq.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

A Picture of Italy, by J. Trapp Vol. 6.
Beatson's Naval & Military Memoirs
Antichita di Ercolano, 8 Vol.
Andrews's Anecdotes (Addenda) £0.2.0.
Townsend's Journey Through Spain

2. Ordered that Oyl [*sic*] be no longer used in the Library or Stair Case.

3. Ordered that the Librarian give directions, that the pavement before Mr. Bright's Compter be immediately repaired.

4. Ordered that the Books be properly classed within six weeks from the date above mentioned.

5. Ordered that the Bell put up in the Library without the consent of the Committee be taken down.

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[244] Clerk of the Arraigns and Clerk of the Town.
[245] There is a grocer in 21 Broad Street with a warehouse in 22 Small Street in the *Directory 1775* and an 'Esq.' in Park Row the *Directory 1793–4*.
[246] The pen name of Abraham Tucker.

6. Ordered that all the Books be open for the inspection of the Subscribers.

[45] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 April 1791**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Mr. John Paine Berjew, Dr. Plomer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. William Milton.

1. Resolved that a few copies of the following Extract from the Tenth Rule of the Society, with the note subjoined, be printed and placed in the Library,
'At a General Meeting, March 25, 1790.
Agreed that the Librarian, or his assistant, attend at the Library, from Eleven in the morning till Two, and from Six in the Evening till nine, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.'
The Regulation of the Library, and the Accommodation of the Librarian, make it necessary for the Committee to remind the Subscribers of the above Order.
Bristol Library,
April 26. 1791.

2. Resolved that Mr. Berjew and Mr. Eagles be desired to examine the State of the Unbound Books, and to get as many of them bound as they shall think proper.

[46] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 May 1791**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq.

[47] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 May 1791**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Edmund Griffith Esq., James Tobin Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Richard Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Essays Philosophical Historical & Literary, Vol. 2^{d}.
Observer, Vol. 5th.
Boswell's Life of Dr. Johnson, 2 Vol. 4to.
Beattie's Elements of Moral Truth, 1 Vol. 8vo
Philosophical Transactions, Vol. 80. 1st. & 2^{d}. parts
Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica, No. 49. 50. £0.18.0.
Ingenhousz, Nouvelles Experiences et Observations sur divers Objets de Physique, &c. 2 Vol. 8vo
Bath Society Papers, Vol. 4 & 5. £0.12.0.
Whitaker's Additions & Corrections to his first Edit. of Mary Q. of Scots £0.7.0.
Nouveaux Mémoires de l'Académie de Berlin, pour 1786.
Annual Register for 1788. Dodsley.
Supplement to Collins's Peerage of England, 1784. £0.7.6.
De Gebelin, Monde Primitif &c. Tom. 5. Paris 1778
Hatsell's Precedents of Proceedings in the House of Commons Vol. 2^{d}. & 3^{d}. £1.0.0.
Priestley's Letters to a Philosophical Unbeliever part 2^{d}. £0.3.6.
Memoirs of the Literary & Philosophical Society of Manchester Vol. 3^{d}. £0.7.0.

[48] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 June 1791**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr. Francis Ward.

At a meeting of the Committee, 21 June 1791
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson.

At a meeting of the Committee, 5 July 1791
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Forster's History of the Voyages & Discoveries in the North 4to.
Douglas's Reports of Cases in the King's Bench 2 Vol. 8vo
Smeaton's Historical Account of the Edystone [*sic*] Lighthouse with Plates £3.3.0.
Mortimer's Observations & Remarks, made during a Voyage to the N. W. Coast of America, Otaheite, Sandwich Islands, &c.
Dr. Robertson's Disquisitions on the Knowledge the Antients had of India &c. 4to.
History & Antiquities of Tewkesbury 8vo
Travels round the World by M. de Pages 2 Vol. 8vo. £0.8.0.
Smeaton's Account of Ramsgate Harbour £0.1.0.
Herodotus translated by Beloe, 4 Vol. £1.1.0.
Beatson's Naval & Military memoirs, Vol. 4, 5, 6.

[49] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 July 1791**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Joseph Townsend's Dissertation on the Poor Laws
Joseph Townsend's Observations on various Plans for the Relief of the Poor.
Speculator, Vol. I.
Mariti's Travels through Cyprus
Joseph Townsend's Free Thoughts on Despotic & Free Governments.

At a meeting of the Committee, 2 August 1791
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr., Francis Ward, James Tobin Esq.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Sketches relating to the History Religion &c. of the Hindoos 8vo £0.6.0.
Geddes's General Answer £0.1.6.
Memoirs of the Marechal Duc de Richelieu

2. Ordered that Enquiry be made respecting Collectanea Juridica

[50] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 August 1791**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Tassie's Catalogue of Gems, 2 Vol. 4to £2.2.0. Plates
Illustrations of British History by E. Lodge 3 Vol. £3.3.0.
Dr. Berkenhout's Letters to his son 8vo
Law of Evidence, to which is added the Life of the Lord Chief Baron Gilbert 2 Vol. 8vo

[51] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 August 1791**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Francis Ward.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Memoirs of the Court of France during the Reign of Lewis XIV by M. Anquetil.
Civil History of Imperial Rome, by the Author of Free Thoughts on Despotic & Free Governments, 2 Vol. 8vo.
Burke's Letter, an Appeal from an Old Whig.
Address to the Archbishop of Canterbury as Visitor of Colleges in Oxford & Primate of all England by a country clergyman 4to.
Cook's Medallic History of Imperial Rome 4to.
Memoires de marechal Duc de Richelieu French
Burke's Appendix.

2. To the Right Honble. Lord Viscount Gallway, K. B.[247] having presented to this Society De Merian, Histoire Générale des Insectes de Surinam et de toute l'Europe, avec un Traite des plus belles Fleurs, &c. 3 Tom. & Paris 1771 folio: Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Lord Gallway for his valuable Present.

[52] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 September 1791**
Present: Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr. Francis Ward, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Dr. Plomer, Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Aikin's Poems
Gilpin's Remarks on Forest Scenery

At a meeting of the Committee, 27 September 1791
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. John Prior Estlin, James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles

[247] Sir Robert Monckton-Arundell, 4th Viscount Galway PC (1752–1810).

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy 1787, 1788 & 1789.

[53] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 October 1791**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

General History of Quadrupeds
Gregory's Life of Chatterton
Dodsley's Annual Register 89 & 90.
Prospects & Observations on a Tour thro' England & Scotland.

At a meeting of the Committee, 25 October 1791
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward.

Not a sufficient number to do business.

[54] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 November 1791**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

[55] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 November 1791**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. John Paine Berjew.

1. Dr. John Ford having presented Harveii Opera omnia: à Coll. Medicorum Londinensi edita 4to. and Maseagnii Vasorum Lymphaticorum Historia folio To this Society; Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Dr. Ford for his valuable present.

2. Resolved that a Table be provided for the New Library.

3. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

An Abstract of the Evidence delivered before a Select Committee of the Ho. of Commons 1790 & 1791 on the part of the Petitioners for the abolition of the Slave Trade, printed by Jas. Phillips.
Hatton's History of Derby.
Oldfield's Anecdotes of Archery antient & modern 12mo £0.2.0.
Montlinot, Essai sur la mendicité
Creech's Lucretius 2 Vol. 8vo £0.10.0.
Christie on the French Revolution

Kett's Bampton Lectures
Narrative of the Loss of the Grosvenor East Indiaman 8vo. £0.3.6.
Rous's Answer to the Appeal from the New to the Old Whigs
Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica No. 51 & 52.
Du Val, Aristotelis opera 4 Tom. fol. £3.3.0.
Commissioners Report of the State of the Crown Lands & Forests with a Schedule. 4to.
Linnaei Amoenitates Academicae Vol. 8. & 9.
Ryce's Dictionary of the American Language
D'Herbelot, Bibliotheque Orientale

4. Ordered that Inquiry be made respecting the History political & personal of the Boroughs of Great Britain 2 Vol. 8vo published by subscription

[56] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 December 1791**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Memoirs & Anecdotes of Philip Thicknesse 8vo. £0.5.6.
Lempriere's Tour from Gibraltar to Morocco 8vo. £0.7.0.
Lackington's Life
Coxe's Travels thro' Russia &c. Vol. 3^{d}. 4to.
Alciphron's Epistles £0.5.0.
Antiquitês nationales No. 1 & 2. 4to.

[57] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 December 1791**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer, Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Richard Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Original Letters by the Rev. J. Wesley & his Friends, with an address to the Methodists by J. Priestley, LL.D. &c. £0.3.0. 1791
A Letter to the Rev. Dr. Priestley respecting his publication of Mr. Wesley's Letters, by Philalethes, 8vo. 6^{d}. 1791
Bigland's Historical, Monumental, and Genealogical Collection relative to Gloucestershire
Steele's Plays £0.2.6.
Keir's Chemical Dictionary
D'Agueseau, [*sic*] Oeuvres.

[58] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 January 1792**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Joseph, Harford Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Thomas Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Aikin's View of the Life &c. of J. Howard £0.3.6.
Travels of Anacharsis the younger, translated from the French 8 Vol. £2.12.6. Robinson
Maclaurin's Newton, Quarto
Chester Cause, 2 Vol. 8vo £1.1.0.

[59] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 January 1792**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr., Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Francis Ward, The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Rev. William Milton, Rev. Thomas Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Travels thro' Barbary by the Abbe Poiret
5th. Vol. of Ld. Monboddo's Origin & Progress of Language
Memoirs & Sufferings of Dr. William Stahl, a German Physician, £0.2.0.
Geometrical & Graphical Essays by G. Adams £0.13.0.
Les Oeuvres de M. Camus, 2 Vol. 8vo

[60] **At a meeting of the Committee, 31 January 1792**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson.

Ordered that the Thanks of this Committee be given to Mr. Catcott for the several Books He has presented to the Library Society.

[61] **At a meeting of the Committee, 14 February 1792**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq.

[62] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 February 1792**
Present: Joseph Harford Esq., James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Edmund Griffith Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles.

1. Agreed that the General Meeting be held on Monday the 19th of March in the New Room at the Library at Six o'clock in the Evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a Summons to each Subscriber, and by putting an Advertisement into the Bristol Gazette of the 15th of March, and into Rudhall's Paper of the 17th.

2. Agreed that a List of the Subscribers and a List of the Committee, be sent to each Subscriber with the Summons to the General Meeting.

[63] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 March 1792**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Francis Ward, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Thomas Broughton.

1. Audited the Treasurer's Account for the present year, by which it appears that a Balance of One shilling and nine pence remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account.

2. The Rev. Thomas Clarke has transferred his Property in the Bristol Library Society to the Mr. Richard Hart Davis,[248]
Mr. Thomas Cave to Mr. James Williams,[249]
John Fisher Weare Esq.[250] to the Rev. Thomas T. Biddulph,[251]
General Mordaunt[252] to Miss Sotheby,[253]
Mr. James Worgan[254] to Richard Lovell Edgeworth Esq.,[255]
Mr. Philip Debell Tuckett to Mr. John Newman.[256]

3. Mrs. C. Burges[257] has transferred her late Husband's Property in the B. Library Society to Mr. Samuel New.[258]

4. Mrs. Ann Gautier[259] has transferred her late Husband's Property in the B. Library Society to Mr. Thomas Batchelor.[260]

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[248] Richard Hart Davis (1766–1842) of Mortimer House, Clifton, West India merchant, MP for Bristol in 1812–31, and before that for Colchester in 1807–12. Partner in Harford's bank in Bristol from 1794 and joined the Merchant Venturers in 1803.
[249] There are a few candidates, but the likeliest one might be the brandy merchant in Redcliff Street, in the *Directory 1793–4*.
[250] John Fisher Weare (1746–1816), merchant, common councilman and local office holder. Pro-slavery and Whig. Left £300,000 in 1816. His father was William Weare (d. 1785).
[251] Rev. Thomas Biddulph (1763–1838). Born at Claines, Worcestershire. High reputation for his preaching in Bristol. First appointed as curate of St Mary-le-Port, Bristol, in 1787 and again in 1789. Perpetual curate at St James's Bristol from 1793. Author of religious works, and sometimes called 'Bishop of Bristol'.
[252] Possibly a relative of General Sir John Mordaunt (1697–1780), a British soldier and Whig politician, who never married and never had any children.
[253] Elizabeth Sotheby, sister of the famous author William Sotheby (1757–1833).
[254] Barber-surgeon in St. Briavels.
[255] Richard Lovell Edgeworth (1744–1817), Anglo-Irish inventor and politician. Born in Bath, and educated at Trinity College, Dublin, and Corpus Christi, Oxford. He sat in Grattan's Parliament for St Johnstown (County Longford) from 1798 until the Act of Union in 1801, and advocated Catholic Emancipation and parliamentary reform. Founder-member of the Royal Irish Academy. Two of his children by his first wife married Bristol physicians: Thomas Beddoes in 1794 and Dr John King (Beddoes's former assistant) in 1802.
[256] Surgeon in Castle Street.
[257] The wife of Daniel Burges, attorney in 50 Wine Street.
[258] Merchant in Old Market, and member of the Steadfast Society.
[259] Née Ann Manson, originally from France. The wife of Rev. Peter Gautier (1729–91), a French Huguenot Pastor who led the French Church in Bristol. She ran a school in Bristol.
[260] Linen draper in Christ Church.

5. Mr. Goldwyer[261] has transferred his late Son's Property in the B. Library Society to his Son Mr. William H. Goldwyer.[262]
6. Mr. Richard Smith[263] succeeds his late Father in the B. Library Society; and Mr. William Morgan as Executor to the late Mr. John Sage.[264]

[64] **At a meeting of the Committee, 27 March 1792**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. William Milton, Richard Bright Esq., James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Chas. Joseph Harford Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Report of the Lords of the Committee of Council on the Slave Trade with a Map, folio
History & Antiquities of Northamptonshire by Whalley 2 Vol. fol
Aikin's Poems £0.3.6.
Loiterer
Toulmin's History of Taunton £0.7.6.
Priestley's Appeal £0.3.6.
Dr. Gregory's Essays Moral & Philosophical, 2 Vol.
Howard's works by Aikin
Dionysii Halicarnassensis Opera, Hudson fol.
Mercure de France, from January 1792

[65] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 April 1792**
Present: James Tobin Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. John Paine Berjew.

Ordered that the following books be sent for

Jenour's Route to India £0.4.0.
Jura Anglorum, by Fra. Plowden £0.5.0.

[66] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 April 1792**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Richard Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Curiosities of Literature 8vo. £0.6.0.

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[261] Father of George Goldwyer (d. 1791 or 1792).
[262] Like his brother George, William Goldwyer was a surgeon.
[263] Richard Smith (1772–1843), surgeon at the Bristol Infirmary and author of biographical memoirs. Son to Richard Smith, longstanding member and surgeon in St. Nicholas.
[264] 'Gentleman', who voted in Gloucestershire's county election in 1776 as an owner of messuage and a garden; see *Gloucestershire Poll Book 1776*, p. 10.

Travels in Kamtschatka translated from the French 2 Vol. 8vo. £0.10.0.
Enfield's History of Philosophy 2 Vol.

[67] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 May 1792**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

History of the Boroughs of Great Britain, 3 Vol. 3.3.0.
A Norfolk Tale by Dr. Geddes £0.2.6.
Observations in a Journey thro' Sicily &c. 8vo. by B. Hill £0.7.6.

At a meeting of the Committee, 22 May 1792
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq.

[68] **At a meeting of the Committee, 5 June 1792**
Present: Rev. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Edmund Griffith Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Ld. Gardinston's [*sic*] Travels
Concise History of the country & City of Chester 8vo.
Essay on the Impolicy of the African Slave Trade by Clarkson
Income & Expenditure of Great Britain, the last 7 years, Examined & Stated, by R. Rayment 4to. £0.5.0.
Grand Instructions to the Commissioners appointed to frame a new code of Laws for the Russian Empire, composed by the Empress Catharine 2^{d}. Translated from the Original in the Russian Language by Mich. Tatischeff
Oriental Repertory No. 1 & 2.

[69] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 June 1792**
Present: Mr. Thomas Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Arthur Young's Travels in France, in 1787, 88, & 89.
Voyage sur le Rhin, 2 Vol. 8vo.
Botanic Garden, Part 1st.
Dr. Woodeson's Lectures, 2 Vol.
Observations on the Discovery of America by Prince Madog, by Williams – White & sons £0.1.6.
Memoire sur les Moyens des Romaines dans la Construction de leurs Edifices, par Ant. Mongez

Idée generale de la Siberie, par M. Patrin
Marmontel's Tales, 2 Vol. 12mo. £0.6.0. Bew 1792
Address to the privileged Orders by Barlow 2d. Edit. £0.2.6.
Williams's History of the Mineral Kingdom 2 Vol. £0.12.0. White
Whalley's History of Northamptonshire
Archaeologia, Vol. 10.

[70] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 July 1792**
Present: James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton.

At a meeting of the Committee, 17 July 1792
Present: Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Mr. F. Ward, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Joseph Smith Esq.

At a meeting of the Committee, 31 July 1792
Present: James Tobin Esq., Rev. John Prior Estlin, E. Griffith Esq.

At a meeting of the Committee, 14 August 1792
Present: James Tobin Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. John Prior Estlin.

[71] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 August 1792**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Francis Ward.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Anecdotes of the Life of Lord Chatham 8vo.
Murphy's Edition of Dr. Johnson's Works 10 Vol. 8vo. £3.3.0.
Mosley's Essay on Archery
Arabian Nights Entertainments, New Tales lately translated.
Plutarch's Lives by Langhorne
Forrest's Voyage from Calcutta to the Mergui Archipelago, Quarto £1.1.0. 1792
Plot's Natural History of Staffordshire
Bartram's Travels thro' N. & S. Carolina, Georgia, &c. with Plates, £0.7.6.
Disney's Life of Jortin
Robinson's Ecclesiastical Researches Quarto £1.1.0.

2. Ordered that S. Taylor's Stenographical Dictionary, price £2.2.0. be subscribed for.

3. Ordered that some copies of the following Letter be printed

'Bristol Library
179[2?]
Sir
I am directed by the committee to remind you that ____ ____ ____ was registered in your name on the ___ day of ___.
Librarian.'

[72] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 September 1792**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. W. Milton, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Rich. Collinson, Mr. Francis Ward, James Tobin Esq.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

A Topographical Survey of the Great Roads from London to Bath & Bristol by Arch Robertson
Survey of the Russian Empire by Jas. Smirnouve [*sic*] price £0.6.6.
Memoirs of the Life of the late Charles Lee £0.5.0.
New Travels in the United States of America perform'd in 1788 by J. P. Brissot d'Varville [*sic*] translated from the French.
Riou's Journal of a Journey from the Cape of Good-Hope 4to. £0.4.0.
Description of the Western Territory of N. America by George Imlay £0.4.0.

[73] **At a meeting of the Committee, 25 September 1792**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward.

Order'd that the following Books be sent for

The additional Volume to the Antichita d'Ercolano.
French Dictionary by Chambaud Quarto.
American Geography by Morse 8vo. £0.7.0.
History of Rome from the Foundation to the death of Marcus Antoninus 3 Vol. 8vo. £0.18.0.

[74] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 October 1792**
Present: Dr. Plomer, Rev. Rich. Collinson, Mr. Fran. Ward, Mr. Thomas Eagles, James Tobin Esq.

[75] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 October 1792**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Rich. Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. Mr. Milton., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr. Fras. Ward, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Edmund Griffith Esq.

1. Ordered, A Pair of Adams's[265] Globes 18 Inches Diameter Mahogany.
Frames, price 10 Guineas

[265] The Adams family were makers of scientific instruments and globes in the 'long' eighteenth century. They came to prominence through George Adams, Sr (*c*. 1709–d. 1772) in London. Adams famously made a pair of mahogany globes for George III in the 1760s, whom he had served as mathematical instrument maker since 1756 when George III was Prince of Wales. The 18 inches globe referred to here might be the same as the one he launched onto the market in 1766 when serving the king. After Adams's death in 1772, the family's Fleet Street business was continued, initially by his widow, Ann, and then by their son George Adams, Jr (1750–1795).

2. A Barometer, Thermometer, & Hygrometer in one Mahogany Frame. price 7 ½ Guineas. Messrs. Jones near Furnival's Inn Holborn.[266] Explanation of the above 1.

Cooper's reply to Edmd. Burke Esq.
Rabaud de St. Etienne's History of the French Revolution.
Letters from France by H. M. Williams 12mo. price £0.3.0.
Matthew Consett's Tour through, Sweden, Swedish Lapland, & Denmark 1 Vol. 4to.
The Philosophy of ancient Greece by W. Anderson £1.5.0.
Count Zenobio on the French Constitution
Walker's Remarks on a Tour to the Lakes £0.5.0.
Description of the Plain of Troy by A. Dalzel £0.10.6.
The 2nd Volume of the Curiosities of Literature £0.6.0.
Stewart's Elements of the Philosophy of the human mind.
Baretti's (if the best) Italian Dictionary.

[76] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 November 1792**
Present: Mr. John Paine Berjew, James Tobin Esq., Dr. Plomer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Architecture Hydraulique de M. Prony 4to. £1.6.0.
Hydrauliques du Chevalier de Buat, 7 Vol. 8vo. £0.15.0.
Atwood's Experiments on accelerated Motion 8vo. £0.5.0.
Monuments of the Via Appia, under the direction of Sir Richard Hoare No. 1. £2.2.0.
Maclaurin's Fluxions

[77] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 November 1792**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Joseph Harford Esq., The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

History of Leicestershire
Hutchinson's History of Cumberland
Randolph's Scriptural Revision of Socinian Arguments £0.2.0.
B. Hobhouse's Reply to Randolph's Scriptural Revision
Smellie's Philosophy of Natural History. Quarto £2.0.0.
Saugnier & Brisson's Voyages to the Coast of Africa 8vo. £0.6.0.
Philosophical Transactions, Vol. 82. for 1791.
Philosophical Transactions, Vol. 82. part 1st for 1792.
Withering's Botanical Arrangement of British Plants Vol. 3. part 2d. 8vo. £0.7.6.

[266] Messrs Jones and Sons, mathematical instrument makers in Holborn, London. Father refers to John Jones (1736/7–1808), sons to William Jones (bap. 1762–1831) and Samuel Jones (1770–1859). A hygrometer is an instrument used to measure humidity in the air.

Annual Register for 1789 8vo.

[78] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 December 1792**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Hoogeveen Doctrina Particularum Graecae Linguae 2 Vol. 4to. 1769.
L^{d}. Monboddo's Origin & Progress of Language Vol. 6th.

At a meeting of the Committee, 18 December 1792
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Samuel Seyer

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Philips General History of Inland Navigation
Atwood's Analysis of Natural Philosophy
Adams's Defence of American Government

[79] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 January 1793**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Trial of Thomas Payne [i.e., Paine] by Gurney
Watkins's Travels into the Graecian Archipelago
Twiss's Tour in Ireland £0.3.0.
Wollstonecraft's Rights of Woman 1st. Edition
Plain Truths, [rest of sentence crossed out]

At a meeting of the Committee, 15 January 1793
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Francis Francis Ward, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Charles J. Harford Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bp. of Durham's charge in 1792. £0.1.6.
Bp. of Shipley's Works
Adams on the Use of the Globes 8vo. £0.10.6.
A Charge addressed to the Clergy of any Diocese

[80] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 January 1793**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Richard Bright Esq., James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr., Francis Ward, Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

A Review of the Proceedings at Paris, by Mr. Fennell
Lounger's Common Place Book, Vol. 1. & 2.
Ferguson on Moral & Political Science, 2 Vol. 4to.
Smith's (Robert) Optics, 2 Vol. 4to.
Smith's (Robert) Elementary Parts of Optics 4to.
Saxo-Grammaticus No. 906 White's Catal.
Volney's Survey of the Revolutions of Empires 8vo.

At a meeting of the Committee, 12 February 1793
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. William Milton.

[81] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 February 1793**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Thomas Broughton.

Ordered that Heriot's Historical Sketch of Gibraltar be sent for.

[82] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 March 1793**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq.

Audited the Treasurer's Account for the present year, by which is appears that there is a Balance of Three Pounds two Shillings and seven Pence due to the Treasurer.

Isaac Hobhouse Esq.[267] has transferred his Property in the Bristol Library Society to the Rev. Basil Wood,[268]
William Gordon Esq.[269] to Richard Blake Esq.[270]
James Sadler Esq.[271] to the Rev. John Muttlebury,[272]

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[267] Sugar merchant from Somerset and the son of a mariner. Contributed money to the defence of the country in 1794 at a meeting of the inhabitants of the County of Gloucester, and gave money to the Bristol Royal Infirmary.
[268] Educated at Pembroke, Oxford, and ordained as deacon by Bishop Christopher Wilson in Bristol in 1784. Minor canon at the Bristol Cathedral.
[269] William Gordon (d. 1802), merchant and planter, who inherited property in Jamaica.
[270] Common councilman and most likely the inheritor of a fortune of £30,000 from Richard Blake Sr. See Latimer, *Eighteenth-Century Annals*, p. 463.
[271] James Sadler (1753–1828), balloonist and chemist. Born in Oxford.
[272] Minor canon at Bristol Cathedral.

Miss Foot[273] to the Rev. Robert Jacomb.[274]
Mr. J. J. Evans,[275] Administrator to the late Father Caleb Evans, D.D.[276] has transferred the Property in the B. Library Society, lately belonging to the said Caleb Evans, D.D. to Mr. James Vaughan, Jr[277]
The Rev. John Jenkins,[278] Executor of Henry Hobhouse Esq.[279] Decd, has transferred the Property in the B. Library Society, lately belonging to the said Henry Hobhouse, to Mr. William Dighton.[280]

Agreed that the General Meeting be held on Monday the 18th. Of this month in the New Room at the Library at Six o'clock in the Evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a Summons to each Subscriber, and by putting an Advertisement into the Bristol Gazette of the 14th instant, & into Rudhall's Paper of next Saturday.
Agreed that a List of the Subscribers, and a List of the Committee, be sent to each Subscriber with the summons to the General Meeting.

[83] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 March 1793**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Book be sent for

Travels in India 1780, 81, 82, 83. by William Hodges price £1.1.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 9 April 1793
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

Rev. John Prior Estlin, Mr. John Paine Berjew.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Godwin on Political Justice, 2 Vol. 4to.
Rye's Excursion to the Peak of Teneriffe [*sic*]
Harrington's Schizzo on the Genius of Man

2. Ordered that Inquiry be made respecting the best Edition of Metastasio Opere.

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[273] Presumably a relative of library member Rev. John Strode Foot (1749–?), curate of Antony in Cornwall, and probably his daughter, and presumably the subscriber to *The History of the Town of Taunton* (1791), by Joshua Toulmin.
[274] Dissenting clergyman in Brunswick Square.
[275] One of Caleb Evans's five children.
[276] Caleb Evans (1737–91), famous Baptist clergyman and principal of the Bristol Baptist Academy. Published several works and sermons. See introduction for more information.
[277] Accountant who came from a major commercial family in the city. Contributed £100 'In Defence of the State' in 1798.
[278] John Jenkins (d. 1824), prebendary at Wells Cathedral. Educated at Brasenose College, Oxford.
[279] Barrister, related to Isaac Hobhouse.
[280] Merchant in 4 Dighton Street. Probably related to and possibly the son of the 'gentleman' Isaac Dighton.

[84] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 April 1793**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. William Milton, Charles Joseph Harford Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Young's Example of France a warning to Britain £0.2.6.
Apollonii Lexicon Graecum Iliadis & Odysseae à Villoison
Baretti's Italian Library 8vo.
Metastasio, Opere, 17 Tom. £4.4.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 7 May 1793
Present: Mr. John Paine Berjew, Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Thomas Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Gray's Poems, with Bentley's Designs, £0.10.6. Robson No. 840
Roger Bacon, Opus majus, à Jebb 1733. £1.1.0. White No. 1072
Curiosities of Literature, Vol. 2^{d}.
Sinclair's Statistical Account of Scotland Vol. 1, 2, 3, 4. 8vo

[85] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 May 1793**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

At a meeting of the Committee, 4 June 1793
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Tacitus, by Murphy, 4 Vol. 4to. £4.4.0.
Moore's Journal during a Residence in France from Aug. to Dec. 1792
Transactions of American Philosophical Society, Vol. 2^{d}.
Bath Society's Papers on Agriculture &c. Vol. 6th. 8vo.
British Critic, a new Review
Henry's History of Great Britain, Vol. 6th. £1.5.0.
Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy Vol. 4th. £1.1.0. Elmsly
Asiatic Researches, Vol. 2^{d}. 4to.
Millin's National Antiquities, Vol. 4th.
de Pages's Travels, Vol. 3^{d}. 8vo. £0.5.0.
Sinclair's Statistical Account of Scotland, Vol. 5, 6, 7. 8vo.
Life of Baron Trenck, Vol. 4th. 12mo. £0.4.0.
Rennell's Memoir of a map of the Peninsula of India £0.7.6.
Beattie's Elements of Moral Science, vol. 2^{d}. 8vo. £0.7.0.

[86] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 June 1793**
Present: Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Buchanan's History of the Western Hebrides 8vo. £0.3.6.
Literary Life of the late T. Pennant 4to. £0.7.6.

At a meeting of the Committee, 2 July 1793
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Riesbeck's Travels thro' Germany, by Maty. 3 Vol. 8vo.
Belsham's History of the Kings of the House of Brunswick

At a meeting of the Committee, 16 July 1793
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Mr. John Paine Berjew.

[87] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 July 1793**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bowles's Poems
Plaidoier du Comte de Lally-Totendal pour Louis XVI. Elmsly
Edwards's History of the West Indies, 2 Vol. 4to. £2.2.0.
Dirom's Narrative of the Campaign in India
Eachard's Grounds of the Contempt of the Clergy

2. Ordered that Betham's Genealogical Tables be subscribed for. Price £2.12.6.

At a meeting of the Committee, 13 August 1793
Present: The Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson.

[88] **At a meeting of the Committee, 27 August 1793**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. John Paine Berjew.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Lady Wallace on the Conduct of the King of Prussia & Dumourier
De La Fayette's Statement of his own conduct & principles

History of Spain by the Author of the History of France 3 Vol. 8vo. £0.18.0.
Imitations of Original Drawings by Hans Holbein, by Mr. Chamberlayne
Jenner's Town Eclogues

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Dr. John Nott[281] for his Present of His Translation of the Odes of the Persian Poet Hafez; and of His account of the Pisa & Asciano Waters, with the Water of Yverdun.

[89] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 September 1793**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Thicknesse's (Philip) Memoirs & Anecdotes, Vol. 1. & 2. 8vo.
Anthologia Hybernica [*sic*]
Marsh's Translation of Michaelis
Annual Register for 1792
Manchester Memoirs, Vol. 4to.
Niebuhr's Travels through Arabia &c. translated by R. Heron, 2 Vol. 8vo. £0.12.0.
Robertson's (A.) Topographical Survey of the Road from London to Bath, Vol. 2^{d}. £1.11.6. Faulder.
Russell's Ancient History, in a Series of Letters, 2 Vol.
Lyson's Environs of London, Vol. 1. Cadell.

At a meeting of the Committee, 24 September 1793
Present: Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson

[90] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 October 1793**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Philosophical Transactions for 1793. part 1.
Perth Edition of Thomson's Works, 4to. Plates, bound. £1.8.0.
Moore's Journal, Vol. 2^{d}.
Zimmermann's Last Conversations with the late King of Prussia, just before his death. Translated into English.
Vindication of the character & conduct of Sir. W. Waller written by himself 8vo. £0.6.0.
Indian Antiquities, 2 Vol. 8vo. £0.15.0. Elmsly
Heroic Elegies, &c. of Welch [*sic*] Poets by W. Owen £0.6.0.

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[281] Dr. John Nott (1751–1825), surgeon and author of *A Chemical Dissertation on Thermal Waters of Pisa and on Neighbouring Acidulous Spring of Asciano with Historical Sketch of Pisa and Meteorological Account of Its Weather to which are added Analytical Papers respecting Sulphureous Water of Yverdun* (London, 1793). Nott was a member of the library.

[91] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 October 1793**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Genl. Roy's Military Antiquities of the Romans in Britain, folio. £5.5.0.
Proceedings of the Association for promoting the Discovery of Africa, Vol. 2d.

At a meeting of the Committee, 5 November 1793
Present: Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles.

[92] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 November 1793**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles, James Tobin Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Hutchinson's View of Northumberland, 2 Vol. 1776
Ld. Gardenstone's Travelling Memorandums, Vol. 2d.
Marshall's Rural Economy of Yorkshire, 2 Vol. 8vo.
Marshall's Rural Economy of Norfolk, 2 Vol. 8vo.
History of Halifax 4to. £0.14.0.

[93] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 December 1793**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Edmund Griffith Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Robertson's Tour through the Isle of Man £1.1.0.
Tucker's Light of Nature, Vol. 6, 7.
H. M. Williams's Letters from France, Vol. 1, 3, 4.
Bp. Lavington's Enthusiasm of the Methodists & Papists compared, 2 Vol. 8vo. Sewell's. Cornhill[282]
Maclaine's Sermon at the Hague, on the last general Fast.

[94] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 December 1793**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], The Rev. the Dean [Hallam], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Edmund Griffith Esq.

[282] John Sewell, bookseller operating from Cornhill in London.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Beaumont's Travels through the Rhaetian Alps £2.2.0.
Swinton's Travels in Russia, Sweden, & Norway £0.6.0.
Moore's Journal, 2 Volumes.
Dryden's Virgil

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Dr. John Nott for his Present of His Treatise on the Hotwell Waters.

[95] **At a meeting of the Committee, 31 December 1793**
Present: Mr. John Paine Berjew, Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Richard Collinson, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Milton's Prose Works
Caldecott's Reports
Chaptal's Chemistry with the new Nomenclature, last Edit.

At a meeting of the Committee, 14 January 1794
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, J. Harford Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Thunberg's Travels in Europe, Africa & Asia, 3 Vol. 8vo. £0.10.0.
Barruel, Histoire du Clergé de France pendant la persecution.

[96] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 January 1794**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Joseph Harford Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Ames's Typographical Antiquities, by Herbert, Vol. 3^{d}.
Mallet du Pens on the Revolution of France
Brissot's State of France
Krantz's History of Greenland, 2 Vol. 8vo.
Greaves's Reveries of Solitude, Prose Essays, &c.

[97] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 February 1794**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Francis Ward.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Transactions of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, & Commerce, Vol. 8, 9, 10, 11.
Dallaway on the Origin & Progress of Heraldry. Large Quarto. £3.3.0.
Nine Letters from a very young Officer serving under Marquis Cornwallis
Barruel's History of the sufferings of the French clergy. English.

At a meeting of the Committee, 25 February 1794
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Edmund Griffith Esq.

1. Ordered that Taylor on the Civil Law be sent for.

2. Ordered that Repton's Sketches & Hints on Landscape Gardening be subscribed for. Subscription £2.12.6.

3. Ordered that the Thanks of the Committee be given to Mr. Catcott for his present of Books.

[98] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 March 1794**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq., James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Thomas Broughton.

1. Agreed that the General Meeting be held on Monday the 24th of this month in the New Room at the Library at Six o'clock in the evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a summons to each Subscriber, and by putting an Advertisement into the Bristol Gazette of the 20th instant, and into Rudhall's Paper of the 22d.

2. Agreed that a List of the Subscribers, and a List of the Committee be sent to each Subscriber with the Summons to the General Meeting.

3. Dr. Colin Drummond has transferred his Property in the Bristol Library Society to Mr. Robert Jones Allard,[283]
The Rev. Henry Evans Holder[284] to the Rev. Thomas Thomas,[285]
Mr. John Cooke Sr to Mr. Robert Southey,[286]
Mr. John Broughton[287] to Dr. Lovell.

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[283] Robert Jones Allard (1765–1832). Apprentice to surgeon Joseph Metford. After his retirement, he came into property in Glamorganshire, took the name of Kenneys and was knighted by the Prince Regent. Member of the Steadfast Society.
[284] Clergyman in Paul Street. Ordained as deacon in Lincoln and as minister in Norwich, both in 1782, according to *CCEd*. His position, or indeed whether he had one, is unknown.
[285] Possibly a dissenting clergyman in Cumberland Street.
[286] Robert Southey (1774–1843), Romantic poet. See introduction for more information.
[287] Attorney in College Green.

4. The Rev. Robert Jacomb has retransferred his Property in the Bristol Library Society to Miss Foot.

5. Richard Lovell Edgeworth Esq. has retransferred his Property in the Bristol Library Society to Mr. James Worgan, who has transferred the same to Dr. Thomas Beddoes.[288]

6. The Rev. John Cooke has transferred his Property in the Bristol Library Society to Mr. Thomas Willis, who has transferred the same to the Rev. Melvill Horne.[289]

7. Mrs. Mary Beck[290] has transferred her late Husband's Property in the Bristol Library Society to her Grandson Mr. Gregory Ash.[291]

8. John Tyndale Warre Esq.,[292] Executor to William Jones Esq.[293] decd, has transferred the Property in the Bristol Library Society, lately belonging to the said William Jones, to Robert Willoughby Esq.[294]

9. Christopher Wilson Esq.[295] has transferred his late Father's Property in the Bristol Library Society to the Rev. John Casberd.

10. Mr. Nathan Windey[296] succeeds his late Father[297] in the Bristol Library Society.

11. Audited the Treasurer's Account for the present year, by which it appears that a Balance of Four Pounds Nine Shillings and six Pence remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's Account.

[99] **At a meeting of the Committee, 25 March 1794**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. William Milton.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

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[288] Dr. Thomas Beddoes (1760–1808), physician and man of letters. He was married to Richard Lovell Edgeworth's daughter. See introduction for more details.
[289] Melvil Horne (1762–?). Born in Antigua in the West Indies. Educated at Aberdeen. Vicar of Olney between 1796 and 1799, and curate of Prestbury between 1799 and 1811. *CCEd*.
[290] The wife of Joseph Beck, merchant and 'gentleman' in 28 King Square, who donated £500 to the Bristol Royal Infirmary in 1791.
[291] Gregory Ash (1770–1818) in King Square.
[292] John Tyndale Warre Esq. of Hestercombe House, sheriff of Somersetshire. Subscriber to Thomas Comber, *Memoirs of the Life and Writings of Thomas Comber, D.D. Sometime Dean of Durham* (London, 1799).
[293] Member of the Merchant Venturers and President of the Dolphin Society. Anti-abolitionist (*Felix Farley*, 18 April 1789).
[294] Presumably a relative of Christopher Willoughby, Treasurer of the Society of Merchant Venturers between 1751 and 1772.
[295] Son of the Right Rev. Christopher Wilson (1714–92), Bishop of Bristol in 1783–91.
[296] Landwaiter at the Custom House, Queen Square.
[297] Attorney in 27 Corn Street.

Dr. Aikin's Letters to his Son
Vatel's [*sic*] Law of Nations
Pollard's Peerage
Newcombe's History of the Abbey of St. Albans 4to. £0.10.6.
Pye's Commentary on the Poetic of Aristotle
Sight, Cavern of Woe, and Solitude, by Mrs. Robinson

2. Ordered that Inquiry be made respecting the Price of Sir William Hamilton's Observations on the Volcanos of the two Sicilies, 3 Vol.

[100] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 April 1794**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Minstrel, Anecdotes of celebrated Persons in XV. Century, 3 Vol. 8vo
Annual Register, for 1790.
Newtoni Opera, cum Comm. S. Horsley, Tom. 5. 4to. £1.3.0.
Du Fresne (Car.) Glossarium ad Scriptores mediae et infirmae Graecitatis, 2 Tom. fol. Lugdun. 1688. £1.1.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 22 April 1794
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Thomas Broughton.

Ordered

Polwhele's Historical View of Devonshire
West India Atlas. folio.
Plan of the Kennet & Avon Canal

[101] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 May 1794**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Sinclair's Statistical Account of Scotland, Vol. 8, 9, 10.
R. Heron's Observations in a Journey thro' the Western Counties of Scotland in 1792
Cartwright's Journal kept at Labrador, 3 Vol. 4to. £2.2.0.
Gray's Travels thro' Germany, Switzerland, & Italy 8vo. £0.6.0.
Knight's Landscape, a Poem £0.7.6.
Lindsay's Military Miscellany, 2 Vol. £0.12.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 20 May 1794
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. Richard Collinson.

[102] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 June 1794**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Boscawen's Horace
Bp. of Waterford's View of the English Translation of the Bible
Lysons's Etchings of Ancient Architecture in Gloucestershire & Bristol. fol.
Stuart's Peace & Reform against War & Corruption 8vo. £0.3.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 17 June 1794
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Edmund Griffith Esq.

[103] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 July 1794**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Edmund Griffith Esq.

At a meeting of the Committee, 15 July 1794
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles.

[104] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 July 1794**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Plaw's Rural Architecture
Essay on the Dramatic character of Falstaff
Dramaturgie of M. Lessing
Memoirs of General Dumourier
Philidor's Analysis of the Game of Chess. Elmsly 1790
Edmd. Williams's Lyric & Pastoral Poems, 2 Vol. 12mo. £0.10.0.
Pugh's Treatise on the Science of Muscular Action 4to. £2.2.0
English Anthology, 3 Vol. 8vo. £0.18.0. Egerton
Bp. Porteus's Sermons, Vol. 2.
Falconer's Tracts relating to Natural History 4to. £0.7.6.
Repertory of Arts & Manufactures, in numbers. Robinsons
Archaeologia, Vol. 11.
Tryal of the Mutineers of the Bounty Storeship £0.3.0.
Old Testament translated by the College at Douay, 2 Vol. £0.10.0.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Joseph Hellicar[298] for his Present of the Plan of the Kennet & Avon Canal.

[105] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 August 1794**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Gil Blas, in French
Le Diable Boiteux

At a meeting of the Committee, 26 August 1794
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Charles Joseph Harford Esq.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Antiquities of London & the Environs, Etched by J. T. Smith, folio.
Appendix & Corrections to Pennant's London, Foulden. 1791
Anecdotes of the French Nation for the last 30 years. 8vo.
Combe's Horace
Whitaker's Hannibal's Course over the Alps, 2 Vol. 8vo.
Montgaillard's State of France in May 1794
Chalmer's Life of Thomas Ruddiman

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Miss Sotheby for her Present of W. Sotheby's Tour through Parts of Wales, Sonnets, Odes, and other Poems.[299]

[106] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 September 1794**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Rowley's Poems. Cambridge. £0.6.0.
Five pieces of Runic Poetry translated from the Icelandic 8vo. Dodsley 1763.
Andrews's History of Great Britain 4to. £1.1.0.
Darwin's Zoonomia 4to £1.1.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 23 September 1794

[298] The Hellicars were a merchant family in Bristol, trading under the company name Ames, Hellicar and Sons in Queen Square. Joseph Hellicar is most likely a relative of library member Thomas Hellicar (1755–1835), both of whom were members of the Society of Merchant Venturers.
[299] See introduction for details about this donation.

Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

J. E. Smith's Sketch of a Tour on the Continent in 86 & 87. 3 Vol. 8vo. £0.18.0.
Stoever's Life of Linnaeus by Trap £1.1.0. 4to.
Monuments of the Via Appia, under the Direction of Sir. Rot. Hoare No. 1. £2.2.0.
Critical Inquiry into the Life of Alexander the Great. 4to. £0.18.0.

2. Ordered that Inquiry be made respecting the Price of Willis's Cathedrals.

[107] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 October 1794**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

At a meeting of the Committee, 21 October 1794
Present: The Right Worshipful Joseph Smith Esq. Mayor. Treasurer, Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Falle's Account of Jersey
Dicey's Account of Guernsey
Sulivan's View of Nature, 6 Vol. 8vo. £1.16.0.
Moor's Narrative of Capt. Little's Detachment 4to £1.11.6.
Philosophical Transactions, for 1793. Part 2.
Philosophical Transactions, for 1794. Part 1.
Blair's Sermons, Vol. 4. 8vo. £0.6.0.
History of the Reign of George III. Vol. 2, 3. 8vo.
Young's Travels in France in 1787, 88, 89. Vol. 2^{d}. 4to. £0.18.0.
Ruffhead's Statues, from 30. Of George III. to the last sessions, inclusive
Smeaton's Tracts collected. 8vo.
Stuart's Antiquities of Athens, Vol. 3.
Willis's Cathedrals, 3 Vol 4to. £5.5.0.

[108] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 November 1794**
Present: The Right Worshipful Joseph Smith Esq. Mayor. Treasurer, Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, Edmund Griffith Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Examen Maritime. traduit de l'Espagnol de Don George Juan 2 Vol. 4to.
American Philosophical Transactions, Vol. 2, 3.
Mechanique de Mons. de Grange 4to.
Dr. Whitehead's Life of John Wesley Vol. 1. £0.7.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 18 November 1794
Present: The Rev. the Dean of Bristol [Hallam], Rev. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

J. Hunter's Treatise on Blood, Inflammation, & Gunshot wounds, with his Life by E. Home 4to. £1.11.6.
Paley's View of the Evidence of Christianity £0.10.6.
Taylor's Translation of Pausanias.

[109] **At a meeting of the Committee, 2 December 1794**
Present: Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., James Tobin Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Gisborne on the Duties of Men £1.1.0.
Pindar. Oxford Edition. folio
History of the County of Cumberland, Vol. 1. part 2^{d}.

At a meeting of the Committee, 16 December 1794
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Mr. John Paine Berjew, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, Edmund Griffith Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Ireland's Graphic Illustration of Hogarth
Two Sermons, How far Methodism conduces to the Interests of Christianity & the welfare of Society, considered in a Sermon preached at the Visitation of the Bishop of Chester, 1794.
Col. Money's History of the Campaign in 1792. 8vo. £0.7.0.

[110]
At a meeting of the Committee, 30 December 1794
Present: The Right Worshipful Joseph Smith Esq. Mayor. Treasurer, Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Este's Journey through Flanders Brabant & Germany in 1793. £0.6.0.
Wyndham's Tour to the Isle of Wight

At a meeting of the Committee, 13 January 1795
Present: The Rev. Dr. Casberd, Vice President, The Right Worshipful Joseph Smith Esq., Mayor. Treasurer, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin

Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Rev. Thomas Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Travis's Letters to Gibbon, and Answer to Porson
Crumpe on the best means of employing the Poor 8vo. £0.6.0.
Wilcocks's Roman Conversations, Vol. 1. & 2.
Hamilton's Translation of Bertholate's [*sic*] Elements of Dying 2 Vol. 8vo. £0.10.0.

[111]
At a meeting of the Committee, 27 January 1795
Present: The Rev. Dr. Casberd, Vice President, The Right Worshipful Joseph Smith Esq. Mayor. Treasurer, Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Blacklock's Poems, by Mackenzie £0.10.6.
Young's Idea of the present state of France £0.1.6.

2. Reference having been made to the Tenth Resolution of the General Meeting held the 24th of March 1794, Ordered that the Librarian apply to Mr. Ward to know if any steps have been taken to get the Feoffment completed: And in case no progress has been yet made therein, that Mr. Ward be requested to apply to Mr. Lewis to get the said Feoffment completed.

[112] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 February 1795**
Present: The Rev. Dr. Casberd, Vice President, The Right Worshipful Joseph Smith Esq. Mayor. Treasurer, Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson.

At a meeting of the Committee, 24 February 1795
Present: The Rev. Dr. Casberd, Vice President, The Right Worshipful Joseph Smith Esq. Mayor. Treasurer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Richard Collinson, Dr. Plomer.

[113] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 March 1795**
Present: Dr. James Plomer, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Samuel Seyer, James Tobin Esq.

1. Agreed that the General Meeting be held on Monday the 23d. of this Month in the New Room at the Library at six o'clock in the Evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a summons to each Subscriber, and by putting an

Advertisement into the Bristol Gazette of the 19th instant, and into Rudhall's Paper of the 21st.

2. Agreed that a List of the Subscribers, and a List of the committee, be sent to each Subscriber with the Summons to the General Meeting.

3. The Rev. Melvill Horne has transferred his Property in the Bristol Library Society to Mr. James Brooke,[300]
Charles Griffith, Esq. to his Nephew Mr. Edmund Griffith, Jr,[301]
Mr. R. D. Woodforde[302] to his Brother Dr. James Woodford,[303]
Mr. Richard Smith[304] to Mr. Francis Cheyne Bowles,[305]
Mr. Henry Dupont to Joseph Blisset, Esq.[306]
Rev. Richard Jones to Miss Fanny Aleyn,[307]
Mr. Richard Hart Davis to the Rev. Dr. Joseph Whately,[308]
Mr. Robert Lovell, Jr,[309] to Mr. Samuel Taylor Coleridge,[310]
Dr. A. Bain[311] to Mr. William Haynes.[312]

4. Joseph Davie, Esq.[313] has transferred his late Father's Property in the Bristol Library Society to John Foy Edgar Esq.[314]

5. Mr. Charles Anthony Partridge,[315] Executor of his late Brother Mr. Thomas Partridge,[316] has transferred the Property in the Bristol Library Society, lately belonging to the said Mr. Thomas Partridge, to Mr. Joseph Parker.[317]

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[300] Possibly a brush maker in Somersetshire, or alternatively a relative; see *Poll Book 1774*, p. 193.
[301] Possibly the Recorder of Glastonbury in 1809–21. The son of Edmund Griffith, Sr, Justice of the Peace.
[302] Attorney in Clare Street.
[303] The brother of R. D. Woodford, attorney, and possibly related to George Woodford, staymaker in Sims's Alley.
[304] Library member, and possibly a surgeon in St. Nicholas.
[305] Francis Cheyne Bowles (1771–1807), surgeon in Queen Square, who joined the Bristol Royal Infirmary in 1806. Member of the White Lion Club and the Bear's Cub Club. Went to school with Robert Southey. Son of Rev. Edward Bowles, minor canon at the Bristol Cathedral.
[306] Born in Letton, Herefordshire, England on 13 May 1767, and passed away on 5 October 1838 in Clifton, Bristol. Had 11 children. Mrs. Blisset is listed in the *Directory 1793–4*.
[307] Most likely the daughter of Israel Alleyn, 'gentleman' in 26 Trinity Street.
[308] Rev. Joseph Whately, or Whateley (1730–97), vicar of Widford, Hertfordshire, from 1768 to 1790, and prebendary of Bristol Cathedral from 1793 to 1797. He was also a lecturer at Gresham College, where he was appointed Professor of Rhetoric in 1757. He received the degree of D.C.L. from Oxford in 1793.
[309] Poet and pin manufacturer. Quaker. Acquainted with Coleridge and Southey, and introduced them to Joseph Cottle. Worked with Southey. Author of *Bristol: A Satire* (London, 1794).
[310] Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772–1834), Romantic poet. See introduction for more information.
[311] Physician in Hotwells. Subscriber to William Barrett's *History and Antiquities of Bristol*.
[312] Master of Colston's School.
[313] Son of John Davie Esq.
[314] Common Council member and sheriff in 1796.
[315] Brother of Thomas Partridge.
[316] Surgeon. Signed a petition against the return of George Daubeny, presented on 12 March 1781. Came by marriage into the possession of Cotham House. Member of the Bear's Cub Club.
[317] Member of the Steadfast Society.

6. Mr. John Seager[318] and John Gordon Jr Esq.[319] succeed their late Fathers[320] in the Bristol Library Society.

7. Audited the Treasurer's Account for the present year, by which it appears that a Balance of Ten Shillings and seven pence remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's Account.

[114] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 March 1795**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Specimen of a Commentary on Shakespeare by Walter Whiter 8vo. £0.4.0.
Aulus Gellius's Attic Nights by Beloe, 3 Vol. 8vo. £1.1.0.
Wadstrom's Essay on Colonization 4to. £0.12.0.
Ferishta's History of Dekkan by Scott, 2 Vol. 4to. £2.2.0.

2. Ordered that inquiry be made of Messrs. White respecting the Subscription to the Shakespear [*sic*] Manuscripts.

At a meeting of the Committee, 7 April 1795
Present: Mr. Thomas Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Young's Annals of Agriculture, Vol. 14th. &c.
Barrington's Account of Botany Bay
Essay upon single Vision with Two Eyes. C. Wells £0.3.0.

2. Ordered that the Shakespeare Manuscripts be subscribed for. Subscription Four Guineas.

3. Ordered that the Librarian be desired to procure a Sketch or Map of the situation of the Books in each Room of the Library; And that the Committee undertake to provide for the Expence thereof.

[115] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 April 1795**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. John Paine Berjew.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

[318] Member of the Common Council, and merchant.
[319] Merchant in Queen Square.
[320] John Seager, glass maker in 6 Tower Street, and John Gordon Esq., merchant.

Olai Wormii Danica Literatura Antiquissima, vulgo Gothica sen Runica, luci reddita, £0.12.6. No. 2531. White's Catal.
Ionae Crymogaea, sive Res Islandicae, £0.4.0. No. 2599. White's Catal.
Edda Saemundar hinns Fróda, Hafmiae 1787. £1.4.0. No. 2569. White's Catal.
Gerrard Siglarium Romanum, sive explicatio notarum &c. in Marmoribus, nummis alïsq, Romanorum Veterum reliquiis, 4to. £1.1.0. boards
Tyndal's History & Antiquities of the Abbey & Borough of Evesham 4to. £0.15.0.
Official Letters from Genl. Washington to the American Congress 2 Vol. 8vo. £0.12.0.
Morell Thesaurus Graecae Poeseos, sive Lexicon Graeco Prododicacum, 4to. £2.2.0. No. 2464. White's Catal.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Joseph C. Walker Esq.[321] for his Present of His Historical Memoirs of the Irish Bards.

[116] **At a meeting of the Committee, 5 May 1795**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Wanderer by Wilkinson, 2 Vol. 12mo. £0.7.0.
Discourse on the Emigration of British Birds £0.2.0.
Musae Etonenses
Elements & Practice of Rigging & Seamanship £4.4.0.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given William Seward Esq.[322] for his Present of Anecdotes of some distinguished Persons, 2 Vol. 8vo.

[117] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 May 1795**
Present: The Rev. Dr. Casberd, Vice President, The Right Worshipful Joseph Smith Esq. Mayor. Treasurer, Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Edmund Griffith Esq.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Plutarchi Opera Moralia Gr. et Lat. à Wyttenbach. Oxoniae 4to. Tom. 1. £2.7.0.
Antient Metaphysies, Vol. 4to.
Zimmermann on Solitude
Roper's Life of Sir Thomas More, by Hearne 1716.
Anderson's Narrative of the Embassy to China 4to. £1.1.0.

[321] Discussed above in the introduction.
[322] William Seward (1747–99), author of *Anecdotes of Some Distinguished Persons* (London, 1781). A friend of Samuel Johnson, and a fellow of the Royal Society and the Society of Antiquaries.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Right Hon. Lord Sheffield[323] for his Present of General View of the Agriculture of Great Britain, 61 Numbers, Quarto.

[118] **At a meeting of the Committee, 2 June 1795**
Present: The Rev. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Francis Ward.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Aikin's History of the Country round Manchester, 4to. £2.2.0
Miller's Gardener's Dictionary, by Martyn
Newcome's [*sic*] History of the Abbey of St. Alban, Part 2. £0.15.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 16 June 1795
Present: The Right Worshipful Joseph Smith Esq. Mayor. Treasurer, Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. William Milton, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. Thomas Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Travels chiefly on Foot through several Parts of England 1782. by a lady £0.3.6.
Lysons's Environs of London Vol. 2. & 3. 4to.
Major Dirom's Narrative
Adams's History of the principal Republics, 3 Vol. 8vo. £0.21.0.

[119] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 June 1795**
Present: The Right Worshipful Joseph Smith Esq. Treasurer, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles.

At a meeting of the Committee, 14 July 1795
Present: Mr. John Paine Berjew, Dr. Plomer, Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles.

At a meeting of the Committee, 28 July 1795
Present: Mr. John Paine Berjew, Dr. Plomer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Thunberg's Travels, Vol. 4th
Murphy's Travels in Portugal in 1789 & 1790. 4to. £1.7.0.

[120] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 August 1795**

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[323] John Baker Holroyd, 1st Earl of Sheffield (1735–1821). After he had left Bristol, the founding member Richard Champion wrote his first major work – *Considerations on the Present Situation of Great Britain and the United States of North America With a View of Their Future Commercial Connexions* (London, 1784) – in opposition to Sheffield's *Observations on the Commerce of the American States* (Dublin, 1783). Interestingly, the library held Sheffield's book but not Champion's.

Present: James Tobin Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Cooper's Letters respecting America 8vo. £0.4.0.
Mickle's Poems
Chronological Account of the French Revolution

At a meeting of the Committee, 25 August 1795
Present: The Rev. William Milton, Joseph Harford Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Radcliff's [*sic*] Journey through Holland &c. 4to
Preston's Poems, 2 Vol. 8vo.
Statutes at Large, during XXXIV. of George III.

[121] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 September 1795**
Present: Mr. John Paine Berjew, Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Francis Ward.

At a meeting of the Committee, 22 September 1795
Present: Rev. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. John Paine Berjew, James Tobin Esq.

At a meeting of the Committee, 6 October 1795
Present: Joseph Smith Esq. Treasurer, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Donald Campbell's Travels in India
Wraxall's History of France
H. M. Williams's Letters
Two Plans of the London Dock 8vo. £0.2.0.
Earl of Dundonald's Treatise on Agriculture & Chemistry £1.1.0.

[122] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 October 1795**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Edmund Griffith Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Uvedale Price on the Picturesque £0.5.0.
Letter to H: Repton by Uvedale Price
Maurice's Indian Antiquities, part 2, 3. &c.

Description of Corsica, with an Account of its Union to the crown of Great Britain, by Frederic, Son of the late Theodore King of Corsica. 8vo. £0.4.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 3 November 1795
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Francis Ward.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Nicholson's Chymical Dictionary 2 Vol. 4to.
Norden's Travels
Dr. Young's Essays. Edinburgh 8vo.
Martialis Epigrammata, Delph. 4to.
Caesaris Commentaria, Delph. 4to.
Madame Roland's Appeal
Louvet's Narrative 8vo. £0.3.0.

[123] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 November 1795**
Present: Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. John Paine Berjew, James Tobin Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Hutton's Mathematical Dictionary 2 Vol. 4to.
Memoires de Garat £0.3.0.
Tench Cox on the present State of America 8vo.
Russell's Natural History of Aleppo, 2 Vol. 4to.
Menandri Fragmenta, 3 Vol. 8vo.

At a meeting of the Committee, 1 December 1795
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Francis Ward, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Thomas Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Life of Adam Smith LLD. with some posthumous Essays.
Marcus Flaminius. A novel founded on the manners of the Romans, 2 Vol. 12mo.

[124] **At a meeting of the Committee, 15 December 1795**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Joseph Harford Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Richard Collinson.

Ordered that the Thanks of the Society be given to the Rev. T. Stonhouse Vigor[324] for Kidder's Demonstration of the Messias and Dr. William Bates's Works; presented to the Library Society, agreeably to the Directions of his late Father.

At a meeting of the Committee, 29 December 1795
Present: Joseph Harford Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr., Thomas Eagles, James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bowles's Poems 8vo. £0.3.0. Dilly
Virgilii Opera, 2 Tom. 8vo. Oxonii 1795
Southey's Joan of Arc, an Epic Poem
Young's Annals of Agriculture, Vol. 14.

[125] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 January 1796**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

At a meeting of the Committee, 26 January 1796
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Richard Bright Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Charles Joseph Harford Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Life of Lord Keeper North, first Ld. Guildford, 2 Vol. £0.9.0.
Life of Julius Caesar, drawn from the most Authentic sources of Information 12mo £0.4.0.
Cogan's Travels on the Rhine, 2 Vol. £1.1.0.
Boaden's Letter to G. Steevens on Ireland's Shakspeare [*sic*] £0.2.6.
Bath Society's Letters & Papers on Agriculture &c. Vol. 7th.
S. Bishop's Poems
Malone's Letter concerning Ireland's Shakspeare [*sic*]

[126] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 February 1796**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Joseph Harford Esq., James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Dr. Plomer, Mr. P. J. Berjew, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Thomas Broughton, Edmund Griffith Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Darwin's Zoonomia, Vol. 2.
Madame de Sevigne's Letters
Montaigne's Essays
Outlines of Moral Philosophy 8vo. £0.7.0.
Warburton's Works complete, with his Life by Hurd, 6 Vol. £6.6.0.

[324] Timothy Stonhouse-Vigor (1765–1831), Archdeacon of Gloucester between 1804 and 1814. The son of the late Rev. George Stonhouse, who donated several books to the library during his lifetime.

Bancroft on permanent Colours

[127] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 February 1796**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Joseph Harford Esq., James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Dr. Plomer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Thomas Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Hutton's Mathematical Dictionary, Vol. 4th
Jones's Index to the Exchequer Records. folio £3.3.0.
A Letter from Edmund Burke to a Noble Lord.

[128] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 March 1796**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Joseph Harford Esq., James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Dr. J. Plomer, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Richard Bright Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Thomas Broughton, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

1. Agreed that the General Meeting be held on Monday the 21st of this month in the New Room at the Library at five o'clock in the evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a summons to each Subscriber, and by putting an Advertisement in the Bristol Gazette of the 17th instant, and into Rudhall's Paper of the 19th.

2. Agreed that a List of the Subscribers, and a List of The Committee, be sent to each Subscriber with the summons to the General Meeting.

3. Mr. James Williams has transferred his Property in the Bristol Library Society to the Rev. Lewis Hughes,[325]
The Lord Bishop of Peterbro'[326] to Mr. Robert Mathew Casberd,[327]
Mr. S. Lloyd Harford[328] to the Rev. William Helps,[329]
Mr. Charles Fox, Jr[330] to the Rev. William Jillard Hort,[331]
Mr. William Dighton to Mr. William Dymock,[332]
Mr. Samuel Taylor Coleridge to Mr. Robert Lovell, Jr,

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[325] Lewis Hughes (1747/8–1824), clergyman and member of the library. Author of *Historical View of the Rise, Progress, and Tendency, of the Principles of Jacobinism* (London, 1799), which was a compilation of the writings of the Jesuit priest Augustin Barruel, and undertaken at the suggestion of the Bishop of Bristol.
[326] Spencer Madan (1729–1813).
[327] Robert Mathew Casberd (1772–1841), MP for Milborne Port in 1812–20. Son of the longstanding vice president John Casberd.
[328] Merchant in Queen Square.
[329] William Helps, curate of Bristol Temple between 1795 and 1798. BA from Wadham, Oxford. *CCEd*.
[330] Banker and 'gentleman'. Richard Champion's brother-in-law.
[331] Subscriber to Joshua Toulmin, *The History of the Town of Taunton* (1791). Author of several works in the nineteenth century, including *An Introduction to Natural History: Adapted to Domestic and to School Education* (London, 1822).
[332] Possibly a relative of Samuel Dymock, oilman and lamp-contractor in Milk Street.

Mr. Robert Southey to Mr. Joseph Cottle,[333]
Dr. James Woodforde to Robert Kyle Hutcheson Esq.
Mr. William Bulgin to Mr. Thomas Jarman
T. C. Hincks Esq.,[334] to the Rev. John Kirkby.[335]

4. Dr. Thomas Beddoes has retransferred his Property in the Bristol Library Society to Mr. James Worgan,[336] who has transferred the same to Mr. John Birtill.[337]

5. The Rev. John Muttlebury has transferred his Property in the Bristol Library Society to Henry Worrall Esq.,[338] who has transferred the same to Richard Phillips Esq.[339]

6. The Rev. Thomas Wright[340] and Mr. Thomas Hodgetts,[341] Executors of Dr. John Wright[342] Decd, have transferred the Property in the Bristol Library Society, lately belonging to the said Dr. John Wright, to the Rev. Francis Davis.[343]

[129] 7. John Farr Esq.[344] Alderman, Richard Bright Esq., and Mr. George Gibbs, Executors of Mr. Paul Farr Decd, have transferred the Property in the Bristol Library Society, lately belonging to the said Mr. Paul Farr, to Mr. George Gibbs.

8. Audited the Treasurer's Account for the present year, by which it appears that a Balance of Seven Pounds seventeen Shillings and four Pence remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's Account.

[130] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 March 1796**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Thomas Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

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[333] Joseph Cottle (1770–1853) was a friend and publisher of Coleridge and Southey, and also acquainted with Hannah More and Robert Lovell Jr. Cottle was educated at Richard Henderson's school at Hanham, near Bristol, and opened his bookshop at High and Corn streets in Bristol. Supporter of anti-slavery, the Spitalfields weavers and orphan girls.
[334] Possibly a member of the Royal Dragoon Guards.
[335] Possibly John Kirkby, Rector of Gotham in Nottinghamshire.
[336] Possibly a wine merchant in 43 Princes Street.
[337] Currier in Redcliff Street. Took a keen interest in the Bristol Royal Infirmary, and contributed £10 'In Defence of the State' in 1798.
[338] Presumably related and perhaps the brother of Samuel Worrall, Jr, town clerk.
[339] Unidentified.
[340] Probably the brother or the nephew of Dr. John Wright.
[341] A member of the Unitarian Society in the West of England; see John Rowe, *A Discourse Delivered at Warminster, July 3, 1799, Before the Society of Unitarian Christians, Established in the West of England, for Promoting Christian Knowledge and the Practice of Virtue, by the Distribution of Books* (London, 1799), p. 30.
[342] Dr. Wright (1732–94), Presbyterian physician in Lower Montague Street. Trained for the Presbyterian ministry, and preached for some time in Tucker Street in a small meeting house.
[343] Francis Davies, curate of Tidenham in Gloucestershire. Educated at Jesus College, Oxford. *CCEd*.
[344] Mayor of Bristol in 1784, and a rope-maker.

Williams's Letters on the Politics of France, Vol. 3d £0.3.6.
Miles's Answer to Burke
Roscoe's Life of Lorenzo de Medici, the Magnificent 2 Vol. 4to. £2.2.0
Bishop's Poems
Hearne's Voyage to the Northern Sea 4to. £0.27.0.
Anecdota Graeca per Villoison
Thomas Simpson's Fluxions 2 Vol. 8vo.

[131] **At a meeting of the Committee, 5 April 1796**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Richard Bright Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Dr. Plomer, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward, Charles Joseph Harford Esq.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bishop of Llandaff's Apology for the Bible
Bryant's Observations on Chevalier's Plain of Troy 4to. £0.3.6.
Count Rumford's Essays on Establishments for the Poor, 4 No. 5 £0.2.0. Each. 8vo.
Concise Review of German Literature. No. 1 £0.1.6. To be continued quarterly. Johnson.
Varieties of Literature from foreign literary Journal, &c. 2 Vol. 8vo. £0.15.0.
Essay on the Art of ingeniously Tormenting £0.5.0.
Vitruvius, Perrault
De Bure, Bibliographie Instructive, 7 Vol.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. John Prior Estlin for his Present of His Sermon, Evidences of Revealed Religion.

3. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Right Hon. Lord Sheffield for his Lordship's Present of His Edition of Gibbon's Miscellaneous Works, 2 Volumes in Quarto.

[132] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 April 1796**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. T. Broughton, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Wadstrom's Essay on Colonization Part II. £0.19.6.
Knight's Progress of Civil Society 4to. £0.10.6.

At a meeting of the Committee, 3 May 1796
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

[133] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 May 1796**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Mr. S. Munckley, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Mason's Essays on English Church Music 12mo. £0.3.6.
Jones's Life of Bp. Horne £0.5.0.
Dyer's Life of Robinson 8vo.
Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy, Vol. 5th.
Memoirs of the Literary & Philos. Society of Manchester, Vol. 5th.
Looker on, a Periodical Paper, 3 Vol. £0.13.6.
Darwin's Zoonomia, Vol. 2. 4to. £1.11.6.
Philos. Transactions for 1795. 4to. £1.18.0.
Maurice's History of Indostan

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Samuel Taylor Coleridge for his Present of His Poems on Various Subjects.

[134] **At a meeting of the Committee, 31 May 1796**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith Esq.], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Mr. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Hearne & Byrne's Antiquities, No. 11. &c.
Anecdotes of Distinguished Persons, Vol. 4.
Pratt's Gleanings Thro' Wales, Holland &c. 3 Vol. 8vo.
Plumptre's Observations on Shakespeare's Hamlet £0.2.0.
Bertin's Chronological Chart of Ancient History. Coloured £0.12.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 14 June 1796
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles.

[135] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 June 1796**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Dr. Plomer, Mr. F. Ward, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Huntingford's Discourses
Major Tench's Letters from France 8vo. £0.4.0.
Mackenzie's Account of the War with Tippoo Sultaun 2 Vol. 4to.
Owen's Travels, 2 Vol. 8vo.
Parker's Voyage round the World by his Widow 8vo. £0.5.0.
General Reply to several Answers of a Letter to a Noble Lord by Edmund Burke 8vo. £0.2.0.
Watson's Apology for Christianity
Mark Moore's Memoirs & Adventures
Narrative of the Sufferings of P. Bristow £0.3.0.
Burney's Memoirs of Metastasio
Camper's Connexion between the Anatomy of Drawing £1.1.0.

Defence of the Right to Tithes
Treatise on the Police of the Metropolis

At a meeting of the Committee, 12 July 1796
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. Richard Collinson.

[136] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 July 1796**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer.

At a meeting of the Committee, 9 August 1796
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. John Prior Estlin, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Sir J. Burgess's Birth of Triumph of Love; a Poem, with Plates
Gray's Key to the Old Testament 8vo.
Gray's Bampton Lectures 8vo.
Chandler Inscriptiones Ionicae. Thin folio £0.15.0.
Musee Etonenses
Pursuits of Literature, 3 parts, £0.1.6. each.
Rumford's Experimental Essays, No. 5.

[137] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 August 1796**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. R. Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. F. Ward, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Correspondence between the Earl & Countess of Jersey and the Rev. Dr. Randolph £0.1.0.
F. Christian's Narrative of the Transactions on board the Bounty before & after the Mutiny, with his subsequent Voyages in S. America
Letters Written from Sweden Denmark & Norway £0.4.0.
Description of the western Territory of America, &c. £0.6.0.

[138] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 September 1796**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], George Daubeny Esq. Alderman, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Joseph Harford Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Dr. Franklin's Life written by Himself, 2 Vol.
E. Hamilton's Letters of a Hindoo Rajah, 2 Vol.
H. M. Williams's Letters on the Politics of France, Vol. 4th. £0.3.6.

Biographia Navalis, Memoirs of the Officers of the Navy of Great Britain, Vol. 1, 2, 3. 8vo.
Archimedes by Torelli, fol. Large Paper £2.2.0.
Moore's View of the Causes & Progress of the French Revolution 2 Vol. 8vo. £0.14.0.
Bryant's Dissertation on the War of Troy 4to. £0.7.6.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Dr. James Plomer for his Present of Fifty Volumes on Medical Subjects.

[139] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 September 1796**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Richard Bright Esq., Dr. J. Plomer, Joseph Harford Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Habits of the National Convention &c. of France
Strutt's Dresses of the English in different Ages, Vol. 1.

[140] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 October 1796**
Present: The Treasurer [Mr. Joseph Smith], Rev. Samuel Seyer, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton.

At a meeting of the Committee, 18 October 1796
Present: The Treasurer [Mr. Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Richard Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Franklin's Chess made easy 12mo. £0.1.6.
Jennings on the Origin of Evil 8vo.
Paine's Age of Reason
Ordinances of Manu, Institutions of the Hindoo Law, translated by Sir W. Jones 8vo. £0.6.0.
Brydson's View of Heraldry 8vo. £0.6.0.
Marshall's Translation of Desgodetz's Ancient Buildings of Rome 137 Plats. 2 Vol. folio £4.14.6.
Travels thro' the Kingdom of Naples with Engravings 8vo. £0.8.0.

[141] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 November 1796**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Charles Joseph Harford Esq., James Tobin Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Wansey's Travels thro' America
Burke's Letters, by Owen £0.2.6.

Burke's Letters, by Rivington £0.3.6.
Dr. Moore's Edward 8vo.

At a meeting of the Committee, 15 November 1796
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Richard Bright Esq., Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Mr. Francis Ward.

Ordered that Walker's Universal Gazetteer, with Plates & charts, 2 Vol. 8vo, be sent for.

[142] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 November 1796**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith Esq.], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Thomas Broughton, Mr. Francis Ward.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Harwood's Comparative Anatomy, in Numbers, 1796
Dickson's Essay on Chemical Nomenclature, with Observations by Kirwan 8vo. £0.5.0.
Vaillant's Travels in Africa, Vol. 3. 4. 5. 8vo.
Gesner's Thesaurus Linguae Latinae, 4 Vol. folio

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Dr. S. Walker for his Present of his Treatise on Nervous Diseases.[345]

3. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Joseph Cottle for his Present of His Poems.

[143] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 December 1796**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. F. Ward, Mr. J. P. Berjew.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

History of Hastings's Trial 8vo. £0.10.6.

At a meeting of the Committee, 27 December 1796
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Francis Ward.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Anderson's Essays on Agriculture & Rural affairs, Vol. 3.
Southey's Poems
Cambrian Register for 1795

[345] See introduction for information about Sayer Walker's donation.

Continuation of Encyclopaedia Britannica

[144] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 January 1797**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Richard Bright Esq., James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. F. Ward, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Belsham's Memoirs of the Reign of George III. To 1794.
Mengs's (Anthony Raphael) Works, 2 Vol. 8vo. £0.12.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 24 January 1797
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith Esq.], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. F. Ward.

[145] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 February 1797**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith Esq.], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Francis Ward, Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Virgin Queen, a Play, written by or in imitation of Shakespeare, with notes, £0.5.0.
Chalmer's Apology for the Believers in the Shakespeare Papers, £0.6.0.
Southey's Travels in Spain & Portugal 8vo. £0.7.0.
Gisborne's Enquiry into the Duties of the Women
Philosophical Transactions for 1796. 4to.
Stedman's Voyage to Surinam, 2 Vol. 4to.

[146] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 February 1797**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Enfield's History of Liverpool £0.9.0.
Statie Poemata a Veenhusen
Erskine's Letter on the War
Whitehead's Life of J. Wesley, Vol. 2^{d}.

[147] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 March 1797**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, James Tobin Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Francis Ward.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Cavallo's Treatise on Electricity, Vol. 3.
Lists of the unclaimed Dividends of the several Stocks.
Vortigern & Rowena, 2 Vol.
Zouch's Edition of Walton's Lives 4to. £1.5.0.
Ireland's Vindication of his conduct respect of the Shakespeare MSS.

2. Agreed that the General Meeting be held on Monday the 20th of this month in the New Room at the Library at six o'clock in the Evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a summons to each Subscriber, and by putting an Advertisement into the Bristol Gazette of the 16th instant, and into Rudhall's Paper of the 18th.

3. Agreed that a List of the Subscribers, and a List of the Committee, be sent to each subscriber with the summons to the General Meeting.

4. The Rev. Charles Lee[346] has transferred his Share in the Property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to Mr. Joseph Waldo Jr[347],
The Rev. John Thomas Casberd[348] to Thomas Graeme Esq.,[349]
Mr. Joseph Metford to Lieutenant Colonel B. Way,[350]
Mr. Thomas Batchelor to Mr. Isaac James.[351]

5. Mrs. Mary Lloyd[352] has transferred her late Husband's Share in the Property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to Mr. William Hare Jr[353]

6. Richard Vaughan[354] and James Vaughan[355] Esqrs., Executors of William Hole Esq. Decd., have transferred the share of the Property in the Bristol Library Society, lately belonging to the said Mr. Hole Esq., to Mr. Philip Furse.[356]

7. Mr. H. James Brooke has transferred his Share in the Property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to Mr. Joseph Cottle, who has transferred the same to his

[346] Master of the Free Grammar School.
[347] Merchant.
[348] Rector of Whitestaunton in Somerset. A relative of vice president John Casberd. Educated at St. John's College, Oxford.
[349] Possibly a grocer or former grocer in Silver Street, or a relative.
[350] Possibly Benjamin Way (1770–1834). Not a Bristol resident. Lt. Col. and High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire, 1822. First son of Benjamin Way (1740–1808), MP for Bridport in 1765, and his wife Elizabeth Anne (1746–1825). His brother was Lewis Way (1772–1840), religious activist.
[351] Undertaker in North Street. Involved in the Circulating Library.
[352] Presumably the wife of Joseph Lloyd (d. 1796?), printer and bookseller in Wine Street.
[353] Dancing master in Montague Street.
[354] Of St Michael's Hill.
[355] Of Great George Street.
[356] Merchant in 17 Queen Square.

Brother Mr. Amos Cottle,[357] who has retransferred the same to Mr. Joseph Cottle, who has again transferred the same to Dr. Joseph Mason Carpenter.[358]

8. Mr. Charles Gresley[359] and Mr. William Morgan succeed their late Fathers in the Bristol Library Society.

9. Audited the Treasurer's Account for the present year, by which it appears that a Balance of Fifty five Pounds one Shilling and nine pence remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account.

[148] **At a meeting of the Committee, 25 March 1797**
Present: Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Rev. Richard Collinson.

At a meeting of the Committee, 4 April 1797
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Mr. Francis Ward, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson.

At a meeting of the Committee, 18 March 1797
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Joseph Tobin Esq.

[149] **At a meeting of the Committee, 2 May 1797**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith Esq.], Richard Bright Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Milner's Church History 8vo.
^W✓^[360] Saussure, Voyages dans les Alpes
^W✓^ Saussure, Essai sur la Meteorologie
Wilberforce's Practical View of the prevailing Religious System &c. 8vo.
^✓^[361] Private Memoirs relative to the late year of the Reign of Lewis XVI with Portraits by Bertrand de Moleville 3 Vol. 8vo. £1.1.0.
^✓^ Johnson's Translation of Beckman's Inventions & Discoveries, 3 Vol. 8vo.

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[357] Amos Simon Cottle (1766–1800), poet and translator, brother of library member Joseph Cottle. He published *Icelandic Poetry or The Edda of Saemund* (1797) with Robert Southey as a co-author.

[358] The grandson of Dr Joseph Mason, Baptist and proprietor of a pioneering private lunatic asylum at Fishponds. Following Mason's death in 1779, the asylum was operated by Carpenter's mother (Sarah, d.1781) and aunt (Elizabeth Cox, 1740–1824), before passing to his cousin Joseph Mason Cox, author of an influential textbook *Practical Observations on Insanity* (1804); H. Temple Phillips, 'The Old Lunatic Asylum at Fishponds', *Bristol Medico-Chirurgical Journal*, 85.2 (1970), pp. 41–44. Sarah married Dr William Carpenter of Downend, and their son Joseph Mason Carpenter became a physician and would perhaps have joined the family mad-business but he died young in 1797; TNA PROB 11/1297/323. Fellow library member Dr John Wright (above, fn341) left all of his medical books to Carpenter in his will; TNA PROB 11/1255/17. Carpenter's sister Selina married a Bompass and her son George Bompass also became involved with the asylum business, taking over from Joseph Mason Cox in 1818.

[359] Son of John Gresley (or Gresly), merchant in 36 Queen Square.

[360] Most likely a reference to White's catalogue.

[361] Unclear what this sign means, but it probably means that the book has either been ordered or arrived.

^C✓^[362] Margaretts's [*sic*] Tables for clearing the Lunar Distance from refraction & parallax, to find the Longitude at Sea. folio. £5.5.0.
^✓^ Crespel's Travels in North America
^✓^ Andrew's Continuation of Henry's History of Great Britain 4to. £1.1.0.
^✓^ David's History of Pichegru's Campaigns £0.5.0.
^✓^ Edward's History of St. Domingo £0.13.0.
^✓^ Travels thro' Germany, translated from the German of Count Stolberg
^✓^ Michell's Principles of Legislation
^W✓^ Gough's Sepulchral Monuments, Vol. 2d.
^✓^Gifford's Letter to J. Erskine
^✓^ Knox's Christian Philosophy, 2 Vol. £0.6.0.
^✓^ Fuller's Calvinistic & Socinian Systems examined 8vo.
^W^ Martin's Repertory, or Index, to Records inrolled [*sic*], & Orders & Decrees made respecting Landed Property &c. from Edward I. to 33. George III. Continued by D. B. Fowler 1 Vol. £2.2.0.
^W✓^ Vidae Poemata
^✓^ Sir. Fred. Eden on the State of the Poor, 3 Vol. 4to. £3.3.0.

[150] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 May 1797**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Memoirs of the Literary & Philosophical Society of Manchester Vol. 4. Pt. 2.
Townson's Travels in Hungary
Rumford's (Count) Essays. N. 6.
Joseph Mede's Works, folio £0.10.6.
Fearne on Contingent Remainders & Executory Devises
Coke on Littleton
Robinson's Trigonometry
Ld Monboddo's Antient Metaphysics, Vol. 5.
Explanation of the Roman Antiquities lately found at Bath £0.12.0.
D. Vincent's Voyage of Nearchus 4to.
Voyage of Hanno, translated by J. Falconer £0.4.0.

[151] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 May 1797**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. F. Ward, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Peter Pindar's works in 8vo.
Surrebutter Pleader's Guide, a Burlesque Poem
Wilberforce's First Principles, &c.
Necker on the French Revolution

[362] Most likely a reference to Cater's or Caddell's catalogue.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given Robert Kyrle Hutcheson Esq. for his Present of his Treatise on Excise and 'Qui Tam' Informations.

3. Resolved that the four Volumes folio of Rees's Edition of Chambers's Cyclopaedia in Dr. Broughton's Collection of Books, altho' a Duplicate, be retained; as the Copy already in the Library has not been permitted to be taken out of the Room.

4. The Committee wishing to express the obligation of the Society for Bequest by Dr. Broughton, desire the Rev. Mr. Broughton's acceptance of the following Books, parts of the Bequest, of which there are copies already in the Library.[363]

^✓^ 4to. Blacklock's Poems
^✓^ Cook's Voyage to the Northern Hemisphere, Vol. 2d.
^✓^ Cullen's Materia Medica, 2 Vol.
^✓^ Barbut, Genres des Insectes
^✓^ Ainsworth's Dictionary, 4th Edit. Lond. 1761.
^✓^ Marsden's Sumatra
^✓^ Mead's Works
^✓^ Forrest's Voyage to N. Guinea
^✓^ Folkes on Coins
^✓^ Ellis on Corallines
^✓^ Sharrman's Voyage, Vol. 1.
^✓^ 8vo. Linnaei Systema Naturae, 4 Tom. Vindol. 1767
^✓^ Broughton, Enchiridion Botan.
^✓^ Linnaei Amaenitates Academicae, 10 Vol. Erlangae
[152] ^✓^ Rousseau, Oeuvres, 30 Tom. the 21st. missing.
^✓^ Osbeck's Voyage, 2 Vol.
^✓^ Haller Physiologiae, Edinburgi 1767
^✓^ Ferber's Travels
^✓^ Miller's Illustration of the Sexual System of Linneaus, 2 Vol. Lond. 1779
^✓^ Born's Travels by Raspe
^✓^ Lee on Botany
^✓^ Knox on Education
^✓^ Lind's Essay on Diseases, &c.
^✓^ Macquer's Dictionary of Chemistry, 3 Vol.
^✓^ Yeats's Institutions of Entomology
^✓^ Cullen's Synopsis, 2 Tom. Edinb. 1780
^✓^ Guthrie's Geographical Grammar, 2 Vol. Lond. 1771
^✓^ Grey's Hudibras, 2 Vol.
^✓^ Butler's Remains, 2 Vol.
^✓^ Shakespeare's Plays, 9 Vol. Birmingham
^✓^ Universal History, Antient Part, 18 vol. the 4th. & 9th. missing
^✓^ [Universal History,] Modern Part, 42 Vol.
^✓^ Withering's Botanical Arrangements, 2 Vol.
^✓^ Kirwan's Mineralogy.

[153] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 June 1797**

[363] See introduction for information about Broughton's donation.

Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Leslie's Works, 2 Vol. folio
Histoire des Troubadours, &c. par M. Palaye
^✓^ Pinkerton's History of Scotland
^✓^ Ruggles's History of the Poor
^✓^ Darwin's Plan for Female Education
^✓^ Townsend's Guide to Health
^✓^ Monro on the Brain, the Eye, the Ear, 4to. £1.5.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 27 June 1797
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson.

[154] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 July 1797**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton.

At a meeting of the Committee, 25 July 1797
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. John Prior Estlin, James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Griesbach, novum Testamentum Graecum
^B✓^[364] Dallaway's Tour in the Levant
^B✓^ Holliday's Life of William, Late Earl of Mansfield £1.1.0.
^B✓^ The Minister, a Tragedy, from the German of Schiller £0.4.6.
^B✓^ Pursuits of Literature, part 4th. £0.2.6.
^F^[365] Lucretius, Havercampi, 2 Vol. 4to.
^B✓^ Aikin's Tour through North Wales & part of Shropshire
^✓^ Dr. Prony, Architecture Hydraulique 2de. Partie
^✓^ Ireland in Answer to Malone

[155] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 August 1797**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^✓^ Maritime Parts of France with Charts & Plans of all the Fortification from Dunkirk to Toulon, 2 Vol. folio. £2.2.0.
^✓^ Lyric Poems. Cadell & Davies
^✓^ Robertson on Punctuation £0.3.6.

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[364] Most likely a reference to Becket's catalogue.
[365] Most likely a reference to Faulder's catalogue.

^✓^ Mysterious Mother, a Tragedy £0.1.6.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Lieut. Col. Williams,[366] Capt. Mudge,[367] and Mr. Dalby[368] for their Present of Their Account of the Trigonometrical Survey carried on in the year 1791, 1792, 1793 & 1794.

[156] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 August 1797**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq., Richard Bright Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^✓^ Lally Tolendal's defence of the French Emigrants
^✓^ Sir Geo. Staunton's Account of Lord Macartney's Embassy to China
^✓^ Hole's Remarks on the Arabian Nights Entertainments £0.4.0.
^✓^ Original Letters of Sir John Falstaff & his Friends £0.3.6.
^✓^ Prospectus of an History of Marine Architecture

2. Ordered that Spillard's Travels, 2 Vol. in 4to. be subscribed for. Subscription Two Guineas.

[157] **At a meeting of the Committee, 5 September 1797**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^✓^ Maurice's Indian Antiquities, Vol. 6th
Maurice's History of Indostan, Vol. 2d.
Gravina della ragione poetica £0.3.6.
^✓^ Sir J. Reynolds's Works & Life by Malone
^✓^ Barruel, Memoires pour servin a l'histoire du Jacobinisme, partie 1 & 2.
^✓^ Lumisden's Remarks on the Antiquities of Rome £1.11.6.

At a meeting of the Committee, 19 September 1797
Present: The Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

[158] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 October 1797**
Present: The Rev. William Milton, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson.

[159] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 October 1797**

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366 Edward Williams (d. 1798), officer and surveyor.
367 William Mudge (1762–1820), artillery officer and surveyor.
368 Isaac Dalby (1744–1824), mathematician and teacher.

Present: The Rev. William Milton, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^F✓^ Skinner's Eccles. History of the Church of Scotland 2 Vol. £0.10.6.
^F^ Bp. Hall's Works £0.7.6.
^F✓^ Dr. Cave's Lives of the Fathers £0.7.6.
^W^ Ellis's Knowledge of Divine Things from Revelation £0.6.0.
^Faulder✓^ Evans's Map of North Wales
^B✓^ Medical Extracts
^B✓^ Bisset on Democracy
^B✓^ Lysons's Environs, Vol. 4.
^B✓^ Tooke's Diversions of Purley, Vol. 2.
^B✓^ Dr. Gregory's Oeconomy of Nature, 3 Vol. 8vo.
^B✓^ Hooper's Observations on the Structure of Plants 8vo. £0.4.0.
^W^ Sketches from Nature made in China 1793 by William Alexander in 12 Nos. £0.7.6. each.
^W✓^ Sketches of the Characters of the principal Persons concerned in the French Revolution
^W✓^ Nichols's History & Antiquities of the County of Leicester
^F✓^ The Scholar Armed against the Heresies of the Times, 2 Vol. £0.12.0.
^B^ Wilson's Postchaise Companion, Dublin 1786.
^B^ Robison's Proofs of a Conspiracy £0.6.0.
^W✓^ Rulhiere, Histoire de la Revolution de Russie £0.5.0.
^✓^ Don J. B. Munoz's History of the New World

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Richard Bright Esq. for his Present of Rashleigh's Specimens of British Minerals.

3. Ordered that five hundred copies of the catalogue be printed by Mr. Rudhall.

4. Ordered that the Partition which formerly stood in the outer Library be disposed of.

[160] **At a meeting of the Committee, 31 October 1797**
Present: Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

At a meeting of the Committee, 14 November 1797
Present: Dr. Plomer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson.

[161] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 November 1797**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Joseph Harford Esq. Alderman, Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^✓^ Kirwan's Elements of Mineralogy, Vol. 2d.
^✓^ Dr. S. Chandler's Critical History of the Life of King David 2 Vol. £0.9.0.
^✓^ Lysons's Account of Roman Antiquities discovered at Woodchester in 1793. £10.10.0.
^✓^ Sir William Jones's Arabic Grammar £0.15.0.
^✓^ Richardson's Persian Grammar £0.10.6.[369]

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to James Tobin Esq. for his Present of his Tracts.

[162] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 December 1797**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Joseph Harford Esq. Alderman, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^✓^ Statutes at Large during the 35th and following years of George III
^✓^ Compendious Dictionary of the Bible

^✓^ Simon Lord Lovat's Memoirs of his Life, by Himself £0.8.0.
^✓^ Des Bouille's Memoirs of the French Revolution £0.8.0.
^✓^ Gamble's Essay on Signals
^✓^ Archaeologia, Vol. 12.
^✓^ Philosophical Transactions, Vol. 87.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. A. S. Cottle for his Present of His Translation of the Edda of Saemund into English Verse.

[163] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 December 1797**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Memoirs of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester Vol. 5. Part 1.
Cibber's History of the Poets
Young's (Dr. Edward) Sermons, 2 Vol.
^✓^ Burgess's Fasciculus, both parts, £0.3.0. Each
^✓^ Berwick's History of Birds, common paper
^✓^ Maclaine's Answer to Soame Jenyns

[164] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 January 1798**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith Esq.], James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson.

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[369] The minute taker has mixed up the authors here: William Jones was the author of *A Grammar of the Persian Language* (London, 1797), and John Richardson of *A Grammar of the Arabick Language* (London, 1776).

At a meeting of the Committee, 23 January 1798
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson.

[165] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 February 1798**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^B^ Warton's Edition of Pope, 9 Vol. 8vo. £3.12.0
Abbadie on the Divinity of Christ 12mo. £0.3.6.
Michaelis's Lectures on the New Testament 4to. £0.13.0.
William Law's Works, 9 Vol. £2.5.0.
Original Draught of the Primitive Church 8vo. £0.5.0.
Transactions of the Linnean Society, Vol. 3 & 4.
Spallanzani's Travels into the True Sicilies, 4 Vol. 8vo.
Spallanzani's Dissertations on the Natural History of Animals, 2 Vol. 8vo, £0.12.0.
^B^ Warner's Walk through Wales 8vo. £0.6.0.
Count Rumford's 7th Essay
^B^ Holinshed's Chronicles of England, Scotland, & Ireland.

[166] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 February 1798**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Joseph Harford Esq. Alderman, Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William. Milton, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Law of Forfeitures, showing its Equity
Whiston's Theory of the Earth
Baviad & Maeviad
Barruel, Memoires pour servir a l'histoire de Jacobinisme Tom. 3me.

[167] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 March 1798**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Joseph Harford Esq. Alderman, Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Charles Joseph Harford Esq.

1. Agreed that the General Meeting be held on Monday the 19th of this month in the New Room at the Library at six o'clock in the Evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a Summons to each Subscriber, and by putting an Advertisement into the Bristol Gazette of the 15th instant, and into Rudhall's Paper of the 17th.

2. Agreed that a List of the Subscribers, and a List of the Committee, be sent to each Subscriber with the Summons to the General Meeting.

3. The Rev. Sir. Abraham Elton,[370] Bart. has transferred his share in the Property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to Mr. William Payne,[371]
Sir John Durbin,[372] Knt. to Mr. George Hilhouse,[373]
Henry Cox, Esq.[374] to Mr. John Helton,[375]
Mr. James Fraser[376] to Mr. John Thomson.[377]

4. Thomas Rothley Esq.[378] has transferred the share of the Property in the Bristol Library Society belonging to the late Sir Stephen Nash, Knt. LL. D. to Mr. Godfrey Lowe.[379]

5. Mrs. Jane Whately[380] has transferred her late Husband's share in the Property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to Dr. John Heathfield Hickes.[381]

6. Mrs. Elizabeth Hare has transferred her late Husband's share in the Property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to Mr. James Norton.[382]

7. Mrs. E. Edwards[383] has transferred her late Husband's share in the Property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to her son John Turner, Esq.[384]

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[370] Rev. Sir Abraham Elton, son to Sir Abraham Elton (d. 1790). Fifth baronet and heir to a large Bristol mercantile fortune. The Elton family fortune was rooted in slavery. He was appointed curate of St Clement (now All Saints) in West Bromwich but gave up his living when he inherited Clevedon Court, near Bristol in 1790.

[371] Victualler.

[372] Sir John Durbin (1734–1818), merchant and local office holder, in 12 College Green.

[373] Merchant and local office holder. Owner of shipyards. Hilhouse and Company established in 1772. Son to James Martin Hilhouse, founder of the merchant house, and grandson to James Hilhouse, Bristol Sheriff.

[374] Possibly a relative of Samuel Cox Esq. of St. Michael's Hill. Since he does not appear to have been an office holder, 'Esq.' is an indication of gentry status and land ownership.

[375] John Helton (1731/2–1817), author of *Insufficiency of Light of Nature Exemplified in Vices and Depravity of Heathen World* (London, 1797) and earlier *Reasons for Quitting the Methodist Society; Being a Defence of Barclay's Apology* (Dublin, 1779).

[376] Unidentified.

[377] Merchant and warden of the Merchant Venturers in 1806.

[378] Thomas Rothley (d. 1798), receiver for the port of Bristol, in Lower Green. Long-standing library member.

[379] Godfrey Lowe (1740–1806), surgeon. Elected Surgeon in the place John Ford, at the Guildhall, 15 August 1775. Tory. His father was a wine cooper. Born in Prince Street. Lived at Trenchard Street and moved to 7 Charlotte Street, Queen Square, in 1786. He married in April 1775, at St Michael's Church, Bridget, the only daughter of Jerome Norman (who was a surgeon at the Bristol Royal Infirmary 1754–63).

[380] Wife of Rev. Dr. Joseph Whately.

[381] Dr. John Heathfield Hickes, physician. Competed with Dr. John New to succeed Plomer at the Bristol Royal Infirmary in 1798, but lost. Physician at the Gloucestershire County Hospital for many years.

[382] Bookseller in Christ Church.

[383] The wife of Rev. William Embury Edwards, Minister of Westbury-Upon-Trym, Bristol.

[384] Accountant in Temple Street.

8. The Rev. William Helps has retransferred his share in the Property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to Mr. S. Lloyd Harford,[385] who has transferred the same to Mr. Alexander Duncan.[386]

9. Mr. James Phillips,[387] Executor of his late Brother Mr. Richard Phillips, has transferred the share of the Property in the Bristol Library Society, lately belonging to the said Richard Phillips, to Mr. William L. Clarke.[388]

[168] 10. Mr. Richard Brickdale Ward[389] succeeds his late father in the Bristol Library Society.

11. Mrs. Selina Bompass[390] succeeds her late Brother Dr. Joseph Mason Carpenter in the Bristol Library Society.

12. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. John Helton for his Present of The Insufficiency of the Light of Nature.

13. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Henry Davis[391] for his Present of Biblia vet. nov. Testam. Belgice, 2 Tom.

14. Audited the Treasurer's account for the present year, by which it appears that a Balance of Fifty seven Pounds and six pence remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account.

[169] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 March 1798**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith] Joseph Harford Esq. Alderman, Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Thomas Broughton, Dr. Robert Lovell.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^B^ Life & Adventures of P. Porcupine £0.1.0.
^B^ Belsham's Review of Wilberforce's Practical View of Christianity
Crawford on Animal Heat
^B^ Patton on the Effects of Property upon Society & Government
^B^ Noble's Lives of English Regicides £0.12.0.
Hatsell's Precedents
Asiatic Researches, Vol. 4.
^B^ Bryant on Philo Judaeus
Fenton's Poems

[385] S. Lloyd Harford (d. 1797), from a major commercial family in the city.
[386] Clerk at the Excise Office.
[387] Brother of Richard Phillips (see edition n.339).
[388] William Lawton Clarke (1777–1867), attorney, and son of William and Elizabeth Clarke, married to Mary Clarke, and the father of Charles Stewart Clarke.
[389] Richard Brickdale Ward, attorney and a member of the Catch Club. Son to Francis Ward (d. 1797), committee member.
[390] Sister of Dr. Joseph Mason Carpenter.
[391] There are two Henry Davis's in *Directory 1793–4,* one banker and one nursery and seedsman.

[170] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 April 1798**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

[171] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 April 1798**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Dr. Robert Lovell, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. Thomas Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^B^ Letters & Correspondence of H. St. John Lord Bolingbroke, 4 Vol. 8vo.
^W^ Memoirs of the Life & Administration of Sir R. Walpole, 3 Vol. 4to.
^W^ Cowley's Solid Geometry 4to.
^W^ Uvedale Price on the Picturesque, Vol. 2.
^W^ Sinclair's Statistical Account, Vol 14. &c.
^W^ Eccentric Excursions or Literary Sketches with Anecdotes, £3.3.0.
^B^ Life of the Empress of Russia, 3 Vol.
^B^ Jackson's Four Ages, 8vo. £0.7.0.
^B^ Proceedings of the Governor & Assembly of Jamaica in regard to the Maroon Negroes, 8vo. £0.5.0.
^W^ Institutes of Hindoo Law, &c. with a Preface by Sir William Jones, 8vo. £0.6.0.
^W^ Antiquities of Ionia, part 2d. £3.3.6.
Emerson's Fluxions £0.3.6.
^W^ Villoison's Homer, folio. £2.2.0.
^W^ Welwood's Memoirs
^B^ Cumberland's Addition to the Observer, being a Translation of the Clouds of Aristophanes.

[172] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 May 1798**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin. Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Philosophical Transactions, Vol. 87, Part 2. 4to.
Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy, Vol. 6th. 4to.
Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh
Graevius & Gronovius, 70 Vol. sixty five Guineas.

[173] **At a meeting of the Committee, 15 May 1798**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. William Milton, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Samuel Seyer, James Tobin Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Randolph's Enchiridion Theologicum, 5 Vol. £1.5.0.

Sketch of Modern France 8vo. £0.8.0.
Milner's History & Antiquities of Winchester £1.11.6.
Valin sur l'Ordonnance de la Marine 2 Tom. 4to. £0.4.0.

[174] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 May 1798**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. John Paine Berjew.

At a meeting of the Committee, 12 June 1798
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. William Milton, Dr. Robert Lovell.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Pursuits of Literature, last Edition
Wooddeson's Systematical View of the Laws of England, Vol. 3.
Manchester Philosophical Papers, Vol. 5 Part 1.
Communications to the Board of Agriculture, on subjects relative to the husbandry & internal Improvement of the Country, Vol. 1. Parts 1, 2. £1.1.0.
Harper's Observations on the Disputes between the United States of America & France

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this society be given to the Rev. Samuel Seyer for his Present of His Treatise on the Syntax of the Latin Verb.

3. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Joseph Cottle for his Present of His Malvern Hills, a Poem.

4. Ordered that the Thanks of this society be given to Miss Elizabeth Sotheby for her Present of Wieland's Oberon, a Poem, by William Sotheby.

[175] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 June 1798**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Plomer, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Thomas Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

J. E. Smith's Tracts relating To Natural History £0.7.0.
Ludlam's Four Essays, £0.2.6.
John Hunter's Observations on the Animal Economy £0.2.6.
Dr. G. Fordyce on Digestion £0.3.6.
Burnet on the 39 Articles £0.7.0.
J. Bryant's Reasonableness of Christianity
Voyage of La Perouse round the World, translated from the French. £2.2.0.
Account of the English Colony in New South Wales, from to MS. of Lieut. Governor King £2.2.0
Edinburgh Transactions, Vol. 4th.
Philosophical Transactions for 1798. Part 1.

Vancouver's Voyage for the North West Passage, 3 Vol. 4to. with a Folio of Plates £6.6.0.
Vincent on the Greek Verb
Athenian Letters, 4to.

[176] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 July 1798**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^W^ Liturgy of the Episcopal Church of Scotland
R. Townson's Philosophy of Mineralogy £0.7.0.
Jenner on the Cow Pox
^W^ Bp. Patrick on the Devotions of the Roman Church £0.2.0.
Roman Coins £3.8.0.

^W^ 2. Ordered that Park's Travels in the Interior of Africa be subscribed for Subscription One Guinea.

[177] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 July 1798**
Present: The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop, President [Folliott Cornewall], The Rev. Dr. Casberd, Vice President, Joseph Smith Esq., Treasurer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Ludlam's fifth & sixth Essays
Shuckford's Connections, 4 Vol. 8vo. £1.0.0.
Bp. Butler's Sermons 8vo. £0.5.0.
Marshall's Rural Economy of the Southern Counties, £0.15.0.
Antijacobin Review for August

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. Thomas T. Biddulph for his Present of His Essay on some select Parts of the Liturgy of the Church of England.

[178] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 August 1798**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. William Milton, Dr. Lovell, Rev. Richard Collinson.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Captn. Jenour's Rout (Inland) to India £0.4.0.
^W^ Burnet de Fide, in English £0.4.0.
^W^ Fuller's Church History £0.7.6.

^W^ E. King's Morsels of Criticism 4to. £0.14.0.
Feltham's Tour through the Island of Man £0.7.0.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Lord Bishop of Bristol[392] for his Lordship's Present of His Sermon preached before the House of Lords on the Day appointed for a General Fast.

[179] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 August 1798**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. T. Broughton, Dr. Lovell, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Stillingfleet's Origines Sacrae. 8vo. 3 Vol. Oxford Edition
Pratt's (Josiah) Prospectus, with Specimens, of a new Polyglott Bible 4to. £0.1.0.
Pye's Naucratia, a Poem 4to. £0.5.0.

[180] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 September 1798**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Joseph Harford Esq. Alderman, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Forster's Journey from Bengal to Petersburgh, 2 Vol. 4to. £1.14.0.
Eaton's Account of the Turkish Empire £0.6.0.
Anti-Jacobin Review, second number, and to be continued
Dr. Beaufort's Map of Ireland, and Memoirs

2. Ordered, that the List of Books brought into the Library since March last be laid on the Table every Committee night.

[181] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 September 1798**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Joseph Harford Esq. Alderman, Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Robertson's (William) History of America, Books 9 & 10.
Original Letters to Dr. Priestley £0.1.0.
Wallace's Essay on the Manufactures of Ireland £0.6.0.
Marshall's Rural Economy of the West of England, 2 Vol. £0.12.0.
Edgeworth's Practical Education, 2 Vol. 4to. £1.11.6
Brown's Observations on the Zoonomia £0.6.0.
Edwd. King's Signs of the Times.

At a meeting of the Committee, 2 October 1798

[392] I.e., Folliott Cornewall.

Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Dr. Robert Lovell.

[182] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 October 1798**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Joseph Harford Esq. Alderman, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. T. Broughton, James Tobin Esq. Rev. Samuel Seyer, Charles Joseph Harford Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Art of Defence on foot with the Broad Sword & Sabre 8vo. £0.6.0.
Essay on Population 8vo. £0.6.0.
Aristotle's Ethics & Politics, by Gillies, 4to. £2.2.0.
Dr. Waterland's History of the Athanasian Creed 8vo. £0.4.0.
Dr. Benson's Tracts 8vo. £0.4.0.
Mitford's History of Greece, Vol. 3d.
Crichton on Mental Derangement, 2 Vol. 8vo.

At a meeting of the Committee, 30 October 1798
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson.

[183] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 November 1798**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

At a meeting of the Committee, 27 November 1798
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Marshall's Rural Economy of the County of Norfolk, £0.12.0.
Last part of Count Rumford on heat
J. Mallet Du Pan's British Mercury, £0.2.0. p[er] number
Anderson on Draining 8vo. £0.5.0.

[184] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 December 1798**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Dr. Robert Lovell.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Philosophical Transactions for 1798 – Part 2.
Naval Chronicle, £0.2.6. p[er] number, to be continued

At a meeting of the Committee, 8 January 1799
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Edmund Griffith Esq., James Tobin Esq.

[185] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 January 1799**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Edmund Griffith Esq., James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Smellie's Philosophy of Natural History, Vol. 2d. £1.1.0.
J. Middleton's View of the Agriculture of Middlesex
Daubeny's Guide to the Church £0.7.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 5 February 1799
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Edmund Griffith Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles.

Ordered

Barruel on Jacobinism, in English.

[186] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 February 1799**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton.

At a meeting of the Committee, 5 March 1799
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Edmund Griffith Esq.

1. Agreed that the General Meeting be held on Monday the 18th of this Month in the New Room at the Library at six o'clock in the evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a summons to each subscriber by putting an advertisement into the Bristol Gazette of the 14th instant, and into Rudhall's Paper of the 16th.

2. Agreed that a List of the Subscribers and a List of the Committee, be sent to each Subscriber with the Summons to the General Meeting.

[187] **At a meeting of the Committee, 15 March 1799**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, C. J. Hardford Esq., Dr. Robert Lovell.

1. This meeting confirms the Two Resolutions passed on the fifth of this month.

2. Dr. William Moncrieffe has transferred his share in the Property
belonging to the Bristol Library Society to his son the Rev. David Stewart Moncrieffe,[393]
Mr. Joseph Cottle to Dr. Thomas Beddoes,

[393] Rev. David Stewart Moncrieffe, ordained a minister in Bristol in 1798 and later Rector in Loxton and Weston-in-Gordano, and domestic chaplain to Thomas Graham, 1st Baron Lynedoch (1748–1843).

The Rev. William Young Coker[394] to Mr. John Penrose,[395]
The Rev. Slade Baker to The Rev. Robert Foster,[396]
Mr. Samuel Taylor Coleridge to Mr. Josiah Wade,[397]
Dr. James Plomer to Mr. William Toye,[398]
The Rev. Basil Wood to Benjamin Freeman Coleman Esq.,[399]
The Lord Bishop of Exeter[400] to the Rev. William Green Humfrey,[401]
The Rev. James Vaughan[402] to Mr. Henry Protheroe,[403]
John Stephens Esq.[404] to Captain Bradshaw,[405]
Mr. Gregory Ash to his Brother Mr. Richard Ash.

3. Mrs. Elizabeth Loscombe[406] has transferred her late Husband's share in the Property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to Mr. J. W. Chadwick.

4. Mrs. R. J. Brown[407] has transferred her late Husband's share in the Property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to Dr. Andrew Carrick.[408]

5. Mrs. Mary Lovell[409] has transferred her late Husband's share in the Property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to Mr. Joseph Cottle.

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394 Rev. William Young Coker (d. 1827) of Trinity College, Cambridge, who married Miss King of Naish House, Bristol in 1790.

395 Possibly a descendant of Bartholomew Penrose, who was from a Bristol family, and became a well-known shipbuilder in Philadelphia in the seventeenth century. More immediately, he may have been the son or relative of Rev. Rumney Penrose, minister of St Michael's in the middle of the eighteenth century. Penrose in turn gave his share to Rev. Samuel Seyer, who was also rector of St Michael's.

396 Curate of Westbury-on-Trym, and vicar of Lynd between 1796 and 1806. BA from Magdalen Hall, Oxford.

397 Linen draper in Wine Street.

398 Presumably a relative of Henry Toye, linen draper, in High Street.

399 In King Square. Freeman and Coleman were both commercial families in Bristol.

400 I.e., the Right Rev. Henry Reginald Courtenay (1741–1803).

401 Rev. William Green Humfrey (d. 1813), lecturer of Bristol All Saints between 1798 and 1804, and thereafter vicar of Romney and domestic chaplain to Cavendish, William George Spencer, 6th Duke of Devonshire/Marquess of Hartington (1790–1858). Educated at St Peter's, Cambridge.

402 Rector of Wraxall in Somerset from 1801. BA and MA from St. Edmund Hall, Oxford.

403 Henry Protheroe (1777–1840), merchant in Great Georges Street, sheriff in 1802 and elected to the Common Council in the same year. President of the Anchor Society in 1802, knighted in 1803. Whig. Son of Philip Protheroe, prominent merchant and local office holder. The editors wish to thank Joshua Smith for information on Protheroe.

404 Auctioneer in 7 Bridge Street.

405 Possibly a descendant of Captain Bradshaw of the 78th regiment, private secretary and aid de camp to General Vaughan (c. 1731–1795), commander in chief of the Leeward Islands.

406 The wife of Benjamin Loscombe Esq. (d. 1796?), businessman in mining and local office holder.

407 Presumably the wife of Rev. James Brown, minor canon at Bristol Cathedral.

408 Dr. Andrew Carrick (1767–1837) was elected as physician at the Bristol Royal Infirmary in 1810 and resigned in 1834 at the age of 67. He was educated at Glasgow and Edinburgh, wrote a book on the Hotwells Waters, and participated in medical societies and clubs. He died a wealthy man and owned a large estate at Nettleton in Wiltshire. *Bristol Royal Infirmary,* pp. 179–80.

409 Mary (1771–1861/2), daughter of Stephen Fricker, and wife of Robert Lovell Jr (1771–1796). They had one child, Robert Lovell the younger (b. 1795). Lovell's family disapproved of the match because she was a non-Quaker and had also become an actress after her father's bankruptcy. *ODNB*.

6. Miss Foot has transferred the share which her late sister, Mrs. Merlott,[410] had in the Property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to the Rev. John Rowe.[411]

7. Mr. John Helton has transferred his share in the Property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to Henry Cox Esq., who has retransferred the same to Mr. John Helton.

[188] 8. Mr. Jeremiah Osborne[412] succeeds his late Father in the Bristol Library Society.

9. Mrs. H. Deverell[413] succeeds her late Husband in the Bristol Library Society.

10. Audited the Treasurer's Account for the year, by which it appears that a Balance of Three Pounds and four pence remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account.

[189] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 March 1799**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Edmund Griffith Esq., Peter Baillie Esq., Mr. Thomas Evans Bull, Dr. William Stephen.

Ordered that the following Books to be sent for

Young's View of the Agriculture of Suffolk £0.5.0.
Sinclair's Statistical Account of Scotland Vol. 15, 17, 18, 19, 20.
Edward's Abstract of Park's Account of his Travels, with Rennell's Geographical Illustrations of Park's Journey.
Vortigern & Rowena, Vol. 3 £0.2.6.
Maurice's History of Hindostan, Vol. 2. 4to.
Evan's Old Ballads, Vol. 3, 4.
Lord Orford's Works, 5 Vol.

[190] **At a meeting of the Committee, 2 April 1799**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Richard Collinson, Peter Baillie Esq., Mr. Thomas Evans Bull.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Hayley's Life of Milton £0.5.0.
Warner's Second Walk thro' Wales
Juvenal & Persius
Quintus Curtius à Snakenberg

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[410] The wife of library committee member and prominent sugar refiner John Merlott Esq.
[411] Possibly the curate of Launceston St Mary Magdalene in Cornwall from 1808 and domestic chaplain to Prince George Frederick Augustus, Prince Of Wales/King George IV (1762–1830). BA from Oxford and MA from Cambridge. *CCEd*.
[412] 'Gentleman' and son to Jeremiah Osborne, attorney and 'gentleman'. Longstanding member of the library. Member of the Steadfast Society and the Bear's Cub Club.
[413] Wife of John Deverell (d. 1799), longstanding treasurer of the library society.

Prideaux's Connections, 4 Vol. 8vo. £1.
Cambrian Register, Vol. 2. £0.9.0.
Van Braam's Embassy of the Dutch East India Company to China, 2 Vol. 8vo. £0.12.0.

2. Ordered that Homer's Universal American Library be subscribed for.

3. Ordered that the Thanks or this Society be given to Thomas Eagles Esq. for his Present of Dundonald's (Earl of) Treatise on Agriculture & Chemistry, and Vancouver's Enquiry into the Causes & Production of Poverty.

[191] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 April 1799**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Evans Bull, Dr. William Stephen, Peter Baillie Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Dugdale's Baronage 2 Vol. £6.10.0.
Weld's Travels thro' North America, 4to. £1.11.6.
Anderson's Recreations in Agriculture, &c. No. 1. £0.1.6.
Intercepted Correspondence from Buonoparte, &c. Parts 1 & 2.
Hayley's Life of Milton, 4to. £0.15.0.
Juvenalis & Persis, Hennenii

[192] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 April 1799**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Evans Bull, Rev. Richard Collinson, Peter Baillie Esq., Dr. Robert Lovell.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^✓^ Lobo's Mission to Abyssinia, by Johnson 8vo.
Seward's Anecdotes of distinguished Persons, Vol. 5.
^✓^ Whitaker's Origin of Government
H. More's Strictures on Female Education, 2 Vol. 8vo. £0.10.0.
Cove's Essay on the Revenue of the Church of England £0.5.0.
^✓^ Ritson's Ancient Popular Poetry with Ellis's Specimens of early English Poets.
Payne's Catalogue £0.18.0.
^✓^ Dr. Waterland's History of The Athanasian Creed, 8vo. £0.4.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 14 May 1799
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Dr. Robert Lovell.

[193] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 May 1799**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Dr. William Stephen, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Peter Baillie Esq., Mr. Thomas Evans Bull, Mr. John Cave Jr

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Reynolds's Iter Britanniarum, 4to. with 2 coloured maps £0.18.0.
Sir William Jones's Works, 6 Vol.
Suidae Lexicon a Kuster, 3 Tom. Edit. Oft. £2.12.6.
Dionis Cassii Historia Romana, Bernari, 2 Vol. fol. £4.4.0.
Maurice's Grove Hill, a Poem, with Anderson's Vignettes 4to. £1.1.0.
Nasmith Catalogus Librorum MSS. in Bibliotheca Coll. Corp. Christ. Cant. £0.6.6.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. William Milton for his Present of Huntingford's Discourses on different Subjects, Volume the Second.

3. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to The Right Hon. Lord Sheffield for his Lordship's Present of Substance of His Speech upon the Subject of Union with Ireland.

4. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. Lewis Hughes for his Present of His Historical View of the Rise, Progress, & Tendency, of the Principles of Jacobinism.

[194] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 June 1799**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], James Tobin Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Peter Baillie Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^N^[414] Jacquin's Elements of Chemistry £0.8.0.
^N^ The Unsexed Females, a Poem
White's Natural History of Selbourne £1.
Ld. Monboddo's Ancient Metaphysics, Vol. 6. 4to.
^N^ Shade of Alexander Pope £0.2.6.

[195] **At a meeting of the Committee, 25 June 1799**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Peter Baillie Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. J. P Berjew, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Dr. Robert Lovell.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Antonini Iter Britanniarum cum Comment. à T. Gale. Lond. 1709. 4to. £0.7.0.
Malton's Essay on British Cottage Architecture £1.7.0.
Adolphus's Biographical Memoirs of the French Revolution, 2 Vol.
Three Essays on Taxation of Income, &c.
Wraxall's Observations respect[in]g the Courts of Berlin, Vienna, & Petersburg, 2 Vol.

[414] Given the tendency to use initials to denote specific booksellers' catalogues , this is possibly a reference to a catalogue produced by James Norton, bookseller in Christ Church, Bristol, who traded between 1775 and 1800. Norton had joined the Library Society in 1798, and may have used his membership to become a supplier to the Society (see edition n.382).

[196] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 July 1799**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Evans Bull, Dr. Robert Lovell, Peter Baillie Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Ruffhead's Statutes, 38. Geo. III. 4to.
Philosophical Transactions, Vol. 89. pt. 1. 4to.
Chas. White's account of the regular gradation in Man, Animals, & Vegetables.

At a meeting of the Committee, 23 July 1799
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Thomas Evans Bull.

[197] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 August 1799**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. Samuel Seyer, Peter Baillie Esq., Mr. Thomas Evans Bull, Dr. William Stephen.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^✓^ Hoche's (Laz.) Life £0.2.6.
^✓^ Kett on Prophecy, 3 Vol. 12mo. £0.10.6.
^✓^ Charnock's Biographia Navalis, Vol. 4 & 5. 8vo. £0.15.0.
^✓^ Prettyman's (Bp.) Elements of Christian Theology, 2 Vol. 8vo.
^✓^ Liancourt's (Duke of) American Tour £1.7.0.
^W^ Nicholson's Journal of Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, and the Arts, 2 Vo. 4to. £2.14.6.
^✓^ Pratt's Gleanings, Vol. 4. 8vo. £0.8.0.

At a meeting of the Committee, 20 August 1799
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], James Tobin Esq., Peter Baillie Esq.

[198] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 September 1799**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Robert Lovell.

At a meeting of the Committee, 17 September 1799
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Peter Baillie Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq.

[199] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 October 1799**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Dr. Robert Lovell, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. John Cave Jr

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Milner's Church History, 3 Vol. 8vo.
^✓^ Green's Examination of the New System of Morals £0.1.6.
^✓^ Pennant's Account of the Parishes of Whitford & Holywell.
^✓^ Brown's Travels in Africa, Quarto, £1.11.6.
^W✓^ Jenkin's Reasonableness of Christianity, 2 Vol. 8vo.
^W^ Archbishop Usher's Answer to the Challenge of a Jesuit
^W✓^ Butler's Horae Biblicae, 8vo.
^W^ Asiatic Researches, Vol. 5.

[200] **At a meeting of the Committee, 15 October 1799**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Dr. Robert Lovell, Dr. William Stephen, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered the following Books to be sent for

^✓^ Sonini's Travels into Egypt by Hunter, 3 Vol.
^✓^ Morritt on Homer 4to. £0.10.6.
^✓^ Moseley's Treatise on Sugar
^✓^ Cowe's Advantages which result from Christianity
^W✓^ Burnet's Life of Lord Rochester
^✓^ Ousley's Epitome of the Ancient History of Persia 4to. £0.7.6.
Roscoe's Nurse, a Poem, 4to.

At a meeting of the Committee, 29 October 1799
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Peter Baillie Esq.

[201] **At a meeting of the Committee, 12 November 1799**
Present: James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Dr. William Stephen, Dr. Robert Lovell, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^W^ Archer on Oxygen £0.3.0.
Bath Society's Papers, Vol. 8.
Tooke's View of Russia, 3 Vol.
^W^ Arthur Young's General View of the Agriculture of Lincolnshire. £0.9.0.
^W^ Leslie's Rehearsals, reprinted in 1750. 6 Vol. £1.0.0.
Contributions to Physical & Medical Knowledge 8vo. £0.6.0.
Dr. Blayney's Translation of Zechariah
Babington's New Treatise on Mineralogy, 2 Vol. £0.15.0.
Dr. Beddoes's Essay on Consumption, &c. addressed to Parents, new Edition £0.5.0.
^W^ Fry's Pantographia, £2.2.0.
^W^ Additional Part of the Encyclopaedia, £0.12.0.
Kirwan's Geological Essays
Kirwan on Mineral Waters 8vo.

[202] **At a meeting of the Committee, 26 November 1799**

Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, Dr. Robert Lovell, Rev. Richard Collinson, Peter Baillie Esq., Mr. John Cave Jr

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Archbp. Usher's Works, 2 Vo. folio
Fleetwood's Chronicon
Milner's History of Winchester, Vol 2.
Cavallo on Electricity, Vol. 1 & 2.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Rev. John Prior Estlin for his Present of His Discourse on the Nature & Causes of Atheism, &c., 8vo., and Jardine's Sermons, 2 Vol. 8vo.

At a meeting of the Committee, 10 December 1799
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Richard Collinson.

[203] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 December 1799**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Dr. William Stephen, Peter Baillie Esq., Mr. John Cave Jr

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^W^ Bryant's Observations on Morritt's Vindication of Homer £0.4.0.
^W^ Dr. Rennel's Apology for the Church of England
^W^ Third Portion of Nichols's History & Antiquities of Leicestershire
Gisborne's Familiar Survey of the Xtian [*sic*] Religion £0.7.0.
Edgeworth's (Maria) Letters for Literary Ladies, Last Edition £0.5.0.
The Crisis by Maurice
^W^ Maurice's Indian Antiquities, Vol. 7. &c.
Elegiae & Historical Poem on the Death of Sir William Jones £0.3.0.
^W^ Criterion by Bishop of Salisbury
Daubeny's Appendix to Guide to the Church 2 Vol.
^W^ Vince's Two Sermons on Xtianity [*sic*] in answer to Hume £0.2.0.

[204] **At a meeting of the Committee, 7 January 1800**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], James Tobin Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Dr. Robert Lovell, Peter Baillie Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Roman Breviary & Missal £0.10.6. 8vo.
Demosthenes à Reiske

[205] **At a meeting of the Committee, 21 January 1800**
Present: The Right Reverent the Lord Bishop, President [Folliott Cornewall], The Rev. Dr. Casberd, Vice President, Joseph Smith Esq. Treasurer, James Tobin Esq., Peter Baillie Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bp. Horne's Letter to Dr. A. Smith on the Life, Death, & Philosophy of David Hume 12mo.
Palladio's Architecture by Inigo Jones, 2 Vol. folio £1.11.6.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Richard Smith for his Present of Haygarth's Tractors.

[206] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 February 1800**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Peter Baillie Esq., Dr. William Stephen.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Old Annual Register, for 1791, &c.
Echard's (Laurence) Ecclesiastical History, 2 Vol. 8vo.
^W^ Dr. Aikin's Letters to his Son, Vol. 2.
Sir Robert Atkyns's History of Gloucestershire, best Edition
Philosophical Transactions, Vol. 89. Part 2.

[207] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 February 1800**
Present: The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop, President [Folliott Cornewall], The Rev. Dr. Casberd, Vice President, Joseph Smith Esq. Treasurer, James Tobin Esq., Peter Baillie Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Dr. Robert Lovell.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Duppa's Brief Account of the Subversion of the Papal Government 8vo. £0.7.0.
Kent's Account of the Agriculture of the County of Norfolk £0.5.0.
Pye's Carmen Seculare
Dodwell' Free Answer to Middleton 8vo. £0.6.0.
Huntingford's Call for Union &c. £0.4.6.
Linnaean Society Papers, Vol. 5.
Darwin's Phytologia £1.
Saunders on the Diseases of the Liver
Holbein's Heads by Chamberlayne, N. 8. &c.
Atkyns's History of Gloucestershire, 2d. Edit. £3.3.0.

[208] **At a meeting of the Committee, 4 March 1800**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], James Tobin Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Peter Baillie Esq.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Intercepted Letters from Egypt, Vol. 3.
^N^ Starke's Travels in Italy between 1792 & 1798

^W^ Colonel Wood's Account of India, 4to. £0.15.0.
^W^ Valerius Flaccus Argonauticon, Burman. Edit. 4to.
^N^ Hall's Bampton Lectures
^N^ Dr. Barrow's Bampton Lectures
Transactions of the Linnean Society, Vol. 4.
^N^ Bp. of Killala's Account of what passed on the landing of the French in Ireland
^N^ History of Berwick upon Tweed 8vo.

2. Agreed that the General Meeting be held on Monday the 24th. of this month in the New Room at the Library at six o'clock in the evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a Summons to each Subscriber, and by putting Advertisement into Bristol Gazette of the 20th instant, and into Rudhall's Paper of the 22d.

3. Agreed that a List of the Subscribers be sent to each Subscriber with the Summons to the General Meeting.

[209] **At a meeting of the Committee, 18 March 1800**
Present: The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop, President [Folliott Cornewall], The Rev. Dr. Casberd Vice President, Joseph Smith Esq. Treasurer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, James Tobin Esq., Peter Baillie Esq., Dr. William Stephen, Rev. Richard Collinson.

1. Mr. William Toye has transferred his share in the Property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to Mr. Edward Prichard,[415]
The Rev. I. R. Arding[416] to Mr. George Penrose Seymour,[417]
Robert Kyrle Hutcheson Esq. to Mr. Francis Cross,[418]
Mr. J. W. Chadwick to Mr. John Bickley,[419]
Richard Blake Esq. to Mrs. Sarah Guppy,[420]
Edward Daniel Esq. to Mr. James Sewell,[421]
Mrs. Selina Bompass to Mr. Joseph Hall,[422]
The Rev. Dr. John Hallam to the Rev. Joseph Walcam,[423]

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[415] There are two Edmund Prichards in the *Directory 1793–4*, one accomptant and one deal-merchant, and one Thomas Prichard, brush maker. Edward Prichard is likely to be a descendant.
[416] Isaac Richard Arding (d. 1831), curate of Compton Beauchamp in Berkshire and rector of Marsh Baldon in Oxfordshire. Arding was the son of Richard Arding (d. around 1770), who had trained as a surgeon but lived off family wealth without practising, and Caroline Penrose, the daughter of Rev. Rumney Penrose of St Michaels (see edition n.395); for Caroline Penrose, see TNA PROB 11/974/362. Given his mother's name, George Penrose Seymour is likely to have been a relative on his mother's side.
[417] George Penrose Seymour (1765–1827), attorney. Listed as an 'Esq.' and as an 'out-voter' in the *Poll Book 1812*, from Wraxall in Somerset.
[418] Of Clifton. Member of the eighth company of the Bristol's Volunteer Corps; *Memorial,* p. 60.
[419] Presumably a relative of Benjamin Bickley, merchant.
[420] Sarah Guppy, née Beach (1770–1852), English inventor and the first woman to patent a bridge (in 1811). Born in Birmingham, but married the Bristol merchant Samuel Guppy in 1795. Around 1800, she published *Mrs Guppy's Dialogues for Children* in two volumes, which were described as being instructive and entertaining.
[421] James Sewell, owner of Talbot Tavern, in Redcliff Street.
[422] Grocer and tea dealer in Maryport Street.
[423] Rev. Joseph Walcam (d. 1806) curate at Little Wenlock in Shropshire and later perpetual at Compton Abdale in Gloucestershire. BA at St John's, Cambridge.

Levi Ames Esq.[424] Alderman to his Son Mr. Levi Ames Jr[425]
Mr. Francis Gold to his Son Mr. Francis Gold Jr[426]

2. Mrs. Mary Reynolds,[427] Executrix of the late Onesiphorus Power Esq.,[428] has transferred the share of the Property in the Bristol Library Society, lately belonging to the said Onesiphorous Power, to George Hunt Clapp Esq.[429]

3. Richard Stratton[430] and Anthony Palmer Collings Esqrs., Executors and Residency Legatees under the Will of Thomas Rothley Esq., have consented that Mr. Robert Bush Jr[431] should have the share in the Bristol Library belonging to the late Thomas Rothley Esq.

4. Mr. John Penrose has transferred his share in the Property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to the Rev. Samuel Seyer, who has transferred the same to Mr. George Roche.[432]
[210] 5. The Rev. John Bull, Executor and Residuary Legatee under the Will of Thomas Evans Bull,[433] has consented that Mr. Francis Bull[434] should have the share of the Property in the British Library Society, belonging to the late Thomas Evans Bull.

6. Audited the Treasurer's [Joseph Smith] Account for the present year, by which it appears that a balance of Eighteen Pounds six Shillings and five Pence remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account

[211] **At a meeting of the Committee, 1 April 1800**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Joseph Harford Esq. Alderman, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Dr. Robert Lovell, William B. Elwyn Esq.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^W^ Planta's History of the Helvetic Confederacy
^W^ Paley's Horae Paulinae 8vo.
Marsh's (Herbert) History of the Politics of Great Britain & France 8vo. £0.10.6.
Asiatic Annual Miscellany, Vol. 1. £0.12.0.

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[424] Levi Ames (1739–1820), merchant and founding partner in the Bristol Bank. Founded the New Bank in 1786 with Joseph Harford, John Cave and George Daubeny. Local office holder and president of the Bristol Marine Society.
[425] 'Gentleman' in Clifton, and sheriff in 1804.
[426] Surgeon, who applied to the Bristol Royal Infirmary twice, in 1812 and 1816, and went to Egypt in 1801 as an army surgeon. On his way home, he was imprisoned in Paris for nearly a decade. He was released in 1812 and returned to Bristol, where he started a school for teaching anatomy. In 1819, he gave up his profession and moved to London. See Smith, *Bristol Royal Infirmary,* pp. 376–7.
[427] Possibly the wife of William Reynolds Esq. of Redland.
[428] Merchant and longstanding member of the library, known as 'Don Power'.
[429] George Hunt Clapp (1756–1824), of Bovey Tracey, barrister, of Middle Temple, London.
[430] Wheelwright in Milk Street.
[431] Merchant in College Green. Master of the Merchant Venturers in 1823.
[432] Merchant ('Daltera and Roche').
[433] Attorney in Redcross Street.
[434] Possibly a second son of Thomas Evans Bull.

Rennell's Dissertation on the Geography of Herodotus 4to.
^W^ Bahar-Danush, or Garden of Knowledge, an Oriental Romance, from the Persian, by J. Scott, 3 Vol. 8vo. £0.15.0.
^W^ Tales, Anecdotes, & Letters, translated from the Persian & Arabic, by J. Scott, 8vo. £0.6.0.
^W^ Selection from the French Anas, by a Gentleman of New College, 2 Vol. 12mo.
Moleville's Annals of the French Revolution, 4 Vol. £1.10.0.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mrs. Sarah Guppy for her Present of Abrégé de l'Histoire de la Bible, par F. De Gruchy, and Two Copies of Her Instructive & Entertaining Dialogues for Children.

[212] **At a meeting of the Committee, 15 April 1800**
Present: The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop, President [Folliott Cornewall], The Rev. Dr. Casberd Vice President, James Tobin Esq., Dr. Robert Lovell, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Samuel Seyer, William B. Elwyn Esq.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^W^ Dr. Hey's Theological Lectures £1.
Reeves's Thoughts on English Government
^W^ King's Munimenta Antiqua, Vol. 1. £3.13.6.
White's Diatessaron £0.5.0.
Memoirs relative to Egypt – by the National Institute 8vo. £0.8.6.
General Washington's Letters to Sir J. Sinclair £0.7.0.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to William Sotheby Esq.[435] for his Present of His Siege of Cuzco, a Tragedy

[213] **At a meeting of the Committee, 29 April 1800**
Present: The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop, President [Folliott Cornewall], The Rev. Dr. Casberd Vice President, Joseph Smith Esq. Treasurer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. William Milton, William B. Elwyn Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Jackson's Overland Journey from India to England in 1797. 8vo.
Stow's Survey of London, 2 Vol. fol. £3.
Archbp. Synge's Tracts, 4 Vol. 12mo. £0.13.0.
Farmer on Christ's Temptation 8vo.
Rennell's Sermon before the Sons of the Clergy 1796. 4to.
Longus's Pastorals by Villoison

[214] **At a meeting of the Committee, 13 May 1800**

[435] William Sotheby (1757–1833), poet and translator.

Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Mr. Thomas Eagles, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. William Milton, Dr. Robert Lovell, Rev. John Prior Estlin, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Stackhouse on Punctuation £0.2.0.
Malone's Critical and Miscellaneous Prose Works of Dryden, 4 Vol. 8vo. £2.2.0.
^W^ John Calvin's Liturgy of the Church of Geneva
^W^ Knox's Liturgy of the Kirk of Scotland
^W^ Trial of the Witnesses of the Resurrection of Jesus with the Sequel.
^W^ Dr. Langhorne's Poetical Works, 2 Vol. 12mo. £0.6.0.
Symes's Embassy to Ava 4to. £2.2.0.
^W^ Communications to the Board of Agriculture, Vol. 2d. £0.16.0.
^W^ Traite' de Mecanique Celeste, par P. S. La Place, 2 Vol . 4to. £2.2.0. de Boffe.
^W^ Adams on the Microscope
^W^ Dart's Survey of Canterbury Cathedral
^W^ Eusebii Opera, curâ Reading
^W^ Godwinde Praesulibus Anglicae, à Richardson. folio.
^W^ Practical Treatise on Rural Improvements
^W^ Kent's Rural Architecture.

2. It appearing to the Committee that there are at present upwards of Five hundred and fifty Volumes, besides those given by Dr. Broughton not classed and that there is now room for all except about Thirty Volumes, under the present arrangement.[436]

Resolved, that the Books which are not yet classed, be, as soon as possible, put into their proper places, as far as there is room for them – In conformity to the order of the General Meeting.

[215] **At a meeting of the Committee, 27 May 1800**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Robert Lovell, Rev. Thomas Broughton, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard King, Mr. John Paine Berjew, William B. Elwyn Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. Richard Collinson.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Bath Society's Papers, Vol. 9. 8vo.
Turner's Embassy to Tibet 4to. £2.2.0.
Faujas St. Fond's Travels thro' Scotland & England £0.14.0.
Dr. Allix's Judgement of Jewish Church
Jamieson's Reply to Dr. Priestley's History of Early Opinions, 2 Vol. 8vo. £0.14.0.
Hasted's History of Kent, 3 Vol. folio

[216] **At a meeting of the Committee, 10 June 1800**

[436] See introduction for information about Broughton's donation.

Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. John Prior Estlin, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard King, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. Richard Collinson, William B. Elwyn Esq.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Dr. Croft's Examination of Paley & Gisborne
^W^ De Saussure, Voyages dans les Alpes, Tom. 3. & 4. 4to.
^W^ Blount, Censura Celebriorum Athorum, Editio Optima.
^W^ Morhofii's Poly-histor, 2 Vol. 4th. Edit. opt. Lubec 1747.
Dr. Walsh's Narrative of the Dutch Expedition
Sturges's Reflections on the Principles & Institutions of Popery, 2d. Ed.
Reid's Rise & Dissolution of Infidel Societies
Wrangham's Thirteen Sermons
^W^ Abbé Gaultier's Method of making Abridgements
^W^ Lloyd's (Bp.) Scripture Chronology demonstrated by Astronomical Observations
^W^ Valerius Maximus, Torrenii 4to.
^W^ Diogenes Laertius, Meibomii, 2 Tom. 4to.
Terentius, Westerhovii, 2 Tom. 4to. £1.11.6.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Right Hon. Lord Sheffield for his Lordship's Present of Two Copies of His Observations on the Objections made to the Export of Wool from Great Britain to Ireland.

[217] **At a meeting of the Committee, 24 June 1800**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard King.

[218] **At a meeting of the Committee, 8 July 1800**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. William Milton, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Thomas Eagles, James Tobin Esq., Rev. Richard King.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^W^ Blount's Jocular Tenures
Salmon's Historical Account of Ancient & Modern Rome £1.10.0.
^W^ Millin, Antiquités Nationales, Tom. 5. 4to.
^W^ Grotius de veritate Religionis Christianae, à Clarke
^W^ Grotius on the Truth of the Christian Religion, by Madan
Bulli (Episc.) Opera
Burns's Works, with an Account of his Life & Criticisms £1.10.0.
Dr. Priestley on Phlogiston, a new Volume of Experiments
Milner's Letter to Dr. Sturges
^W^ Collier's Sacred Interpreter, 2 Vol. 8vo. £0.10.0.
^W^ Wynne's appendix to Bp. Watson's Apology for Christianity
Missionary's Voyage 4to.

2. Ordered that Dr. Holmes's Septuagint be subscribed for. Subscription Twelve Guineas.

3. Ordered that the Thanks for this Society be given to the Rev. Dr. F. Randolph[437] for his Present of His Sermons, preached at Laura-Chapel, Bath.

[219] **At a meeting of the Committee, 22 July 1800**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], The Very Reverend the Dean [Charles Layard], Rev. Richard King, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. Thomas Broughton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Cavallo's Essay on the Medicinal Properties of Factitious Airs with an Appendix on the Nature of the Blood £0.5.0.
Hales's Irish Pursuits of Literature 8vo.
Ousely's Oriental Geography of Ebn Haukal, an Arabian Traveller of the 10th Century 4to. £1.7.0.
^W^ Berriman's Boyle's Lectures, 2 Vol. 8vo.
^W^ Basnage's History of the Jews
Beeke's Observations 8vo. £0.3.0.
Lord Somerville's Work on Agriculture £0.15.0.
Tillotson's Works, 3 Vol. folio

[220] **At a meeting of the Committee, 5 August 1800**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. Richard Collinson, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Mr. B. Elwyn Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^W^ Ruffhead's Statutes, 39. Geo. III. 4to.
^W^ Catalogue of MSS. in the British Museum, 2 Vol, 4to.
^W^ Catalogue of printed Books in the British Museum
Progress of the Pilgrim Good Intent
Collection of Papers on Naval Architecture, 2 Vol. 8vo. £1.0.0.
Richards's Bampton's Lectures
Dallaway's Anecdotes of the Arts on England, 4to. £0.10.6.
Prospectus, Charter, &c. of the Royal Institution of Great Britain 4to. £0.3.0.
Lounger's Common Place Book, Vol. 3. & 4.
^W^ Roscoe's Nurse, a Poem 4to.

[221] **At a meeting of the Committee, 19 August 1800**

[437] Rev. Francis Randolph (1752–1831), Prebendary of Bristol from 1791. See introduction for more information about him.

Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], The Very Reverend the Dean [Charles Layard], Dr. Lovell, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Thomas Broughton.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Tour through North Wales
Transactions of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures, and Commerce, Vol. 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17. 8vo.
Archaeologia, Vol. 13.
Roscoe's Nurse, a Poem, 12mo.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. Joseph Cottle for his Present of His Alfred, an Epic Poem. 4to.

[222] **At a meeting of the Committee, 2 September 1800**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], The Very Reverend the Dean [Charles Layard], Rev. John Prior Estlin, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Dr. Lovell, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, William B. Elwyn Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^W^ Dr. Pococke's Theological Works, 2 Vol. folio £0.9.0.
^W^ Camden's Remains concerning Britain
Buxtorfii Synagoga Judaica
^W^ Bp. Potter's Government of the Ancient Church 8vo. £0.6.0.
Polwhele's Devonshire
^W^ Wooddeson's Elements of Jurisprudence 8vo.
Drake's Literary Hours, 2 Vol. 8vo.

[223] **At a meeting of the Committee, 16 September 1800**
Present: The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Dr. Lovell, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Richard King.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Tytler's Military Law
Dr. Duncan's Libertine & Infidel led to Reflection 8vo.
^W^ Sir William Petty's Works. On Political Arithmetic, &c.
^W^ Dr. Charles Davenant's Discourse on the Trade & Revenues of England.
^W^ Woodeson's Elements of Jurisprudence 4to.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to William B. Elwyn, Esq. for his Present of Buxtorfii Synagoga Judaica. 12mo.

[224] **At a meeting of the Committee, 30 September 1800**

Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Broughton, William B. Elwyn Esq., Rev. Richard King, Rev. Samuel Seyer, James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Davy's Researches into the Nitrous Oxide
Asiatic Researches, Vol. 4. & 5. 4to. London Edition
Sir Thomas More's Utopia
Fonblanque's Treatise on Equity, 2 Vol.

[225] **At a meeting of the Committee, 14 October 1800**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], The Very Reverend the Dean [Charles Layard], Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard King, William B. Elwyn Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, James Tobin Esq., Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^W^ Bp. Kennett's Case of Impropriations 8vo.
Allan Ramsay's Poems, 2 Vol.
^W^ Dugdale's Warwickshire
Ellesley's Annotations on the Four Gospels, 2 Vol. 8vo.
^W^ Burgh's Confutation of Lindsey's Apology 8vo. £0.3.0.
^W^ Dr. Vincent's Periplus of the Erythrean Sea 1st. Part
^W^ Burgh's Sequel to his Scriptural Confutation of Lindsey
^W^ Lindsey's Apology

[226] **At a meeting of the Committee, 28 October 1800**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], The Very Reverend the Dean [Charles Layard], Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, William B. Elwyn Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. William Milton, Mr. Thomas Eagles.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Plutarchi Moralia, Tom. 2, 3, 4, 5. 4to.
Parry's Facts & Observations with regard to the growth of Spanish Wool £0.4.0.
Beddoes's Communications with regard to the Nitrous Acid
Clements's Sermons at Moyer's Lectures

[227] **At a meeting of the Committee, 11 November 1800**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], The Very Reverend the Dean [Charles Layard], Rev. Richard Collinson, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. William Milton.

Ordered that Brand on the Price of Wheat 8vo. be sent for.

[228] **At a meeting of the Committee, 25 November 1800**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. Richard Collinson, William B. Elwyn Esq., James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. William Milton, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

1. Ordered that Chamberlaine's Portraits from the Original Drawings of Hans Holbein, N. 13. and Supplementary Number, be sent for.

2. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to Mr. F.C. Bowles for his Present of Sandys's Travels, fol. and Spelman's Villare Anglicum, 8vo.

3. Ordered that the Thanks of this Society be given to the Right. Honble. Lord Sheffield for his Lordship's Present of His Remarks on the Deficiency of Grain, 8vo.

[229] **At a meeting of the Committee, 9 December 1800**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. William Milton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

[230] **At a meeting of the Committee, 23 December 1800**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Edmund Griffith Esq., Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, William B. Elwyn Esq., Rev. Richard King, Rev. Samuel Seyer.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^W^ Dr. Clarke's Essay on Study 12mo. £0.3.0.
^W^ Whitaker's Answer to Gibbon
^N^ Epistle to Peter Pindar by the Author of the Baviad
^W^ Trigonometrical Survey, by Williams, Mudge, & Dalby, since the year 1794.
^N^ Dr. Willan on Cutaneous Diseases, with Plates 4to. £0.15.0.
^W^ Fabliaux or Tales, of the XII. and XIII. Centuries, translated into English Verse, 2 Vol.
^N^ Shield's Introduction to Harmony 4to. £0.18.0.
^W^ Banister's Synopsis of Husbandry 8vo. £0.7.0.

[231] **At a meeting of the Committee, 6 January 1801**
Present: The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop, President [Folliott Cornewall], The Rev. Dr. Casberd Vice President, Joseph Smith Esq. Treasurer, Rev. Richard Collinson, William B. Elwyn Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. William Milton, Edmund Griffith Esq.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^N^ Higgins's Experiments on Sugar and Rum £0.6.0.
Description of the Bridge at Schaffhausen, and Print, £0.12.0.
^N^ Warner's History of Bath, £2.2.0.
^N^ Damberger's Travels in the Interior of Africa, £0.8.0.
^N^ Illingworth's Enquiry into the Laws antient & modern respecting forestalling, &c. 8vo. £0.7.6.

^N^ Clarke's Tabulae Linguarum, 3 Vol.
Brook Taylor, Methodus Incrementorum
Houghton's Collection of Trade & Husbandry. Price £0.18.0.
Reland's Palestine, Price £0.12.0.

[232] **At a meeting of the Committee, 20 January 1801**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Rev. Richard Collinson, James Tobin Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, William B. Elwyn Esq. Rev. William Milton, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew.

Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^✓^ Wynne's Eunomus, 2 Vol. 12mo.
^✓^ Philosophical Transactions, Vol. 90. 4to.
^✓^ Nichols's Leicestershire, Vol. 3. Part I. £2.12.6.
^✓^ Vince's System of Astronomy, 2 Vol. 4to. £2.0.0.
Adams's answer to Hume's Essays, 8vo. £0.5.0.
^✓^ Gaultier's [*sic*] Method of Abridgement
Milner's Ecclesiastical History, 3 Vol. £0.14.0.
^✓^ Farmer's Boy, a Pastoral Poem
Pye's Alfred, an Epic Poem

[233] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 February 1801**
Present: The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop, President [Folliott Cornewall], The Rev. Dr. Casberd Vice President, Joseph Smith Esq. Treasurer, James Tobin Esq., Dr. Lovell, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, Rev. William Milton, Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. Richard King.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

^N^ Memoirs of Modern Philosophers, 3 Vol.
^N^ Murphy's Life of D. Garrick, £0.18.0.
Nicholson's Journal, Vol. 3. 4to.
Whiter's Etymologicon magnum
Hager's Explanation of the Elementary Characters of the Chinese, folio £2.2.0.

2. Ordered that the Theological, Philosophical, and Miscellaneous Works of the late Mr. Jones of Nayland be subscribed for. Subscription Four Guineas.

[234] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 February 1801**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], The Treasurer [Joseph Smith], Edmund Griffith Esq., James Tobin Esq., William B. Elwyn Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. William Milton.

1. Ordered that the Continuation of Unclaimed Dividends be sent for.

2. Ordered that Bingham's Dissertationes Apocalypticae be subscribed for. Subscription One Guinea.

[235] **At a meeting of the Committee, 3 March 1801**
Present: The Vice President [Casberd], Edmund Griffith Esq., Mr. Thomas Eagles, James Tobin Esq., William B. Elwyn Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Rev. Samuel Seyer, Rev. Thomas Broughton, Rev. Richard Collinson, Dr. Lovell.

1. Ordered that the following Books be sent for

Col. Fullarton's Letters to Lord Carrington
Delcastillo's History of the Conquest of Mexico, translated by Keating, 4to. £1.5.0.

2. Agreed that the General Meeting be held on Monday the 23d. of this Month in the New Room at the Library at six o'clock in the Evening; and that the Librarian give notice of the same by sending a summons to each Subscriber, and by putting an Advertisement into the Bristol Gazette of the 19th instant, and into Rudhall's Paper of the 21st.

3. Agreed that a List of the Subscribers, and a List of the Committee, be sent to each subscriber with the Summons to the General Meeting.

[236] **At a meeting of the Committee, 17 March 1801**
Present: The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop, President [Folliott Cornewall], The Rev, Dr, Casberd Vice President, Joseph Smith Esq. Treasurer, Edmund Griffith Esq., Rev. Samuel Seyer, Charles Joseph Harford Esq., Mr. John Paine Berjew, Mr. Thomas Eagles, Rev. Richard Collinson, William B. Elwyn Esq., Rev. William Milton, James Tobin Esq.

1. Rowland Edward Williams Esq. has transferred his Share in the property belonging to the Bristol Library Society to Francis Adams Esq.[438]
Richard Nelmes Esq. to Mr. John Lewis
Mr. John Bickley to Mr. William Hood[439]
Captain James Burney[440] to the Rev. Dr. Thomas Jones[441]
Mr. Joseph Parker to Mr. Isaac Leech[442]
The Rev. William Jillard Hort to Miss Susan Morgan[443]

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[438] Owner of an estate called Lyon's Court west of Whitechurch, near Bristol, and co-owner of the Norton-Malreward manor in Somerset; see Collinson, *The History and Antiquities of Somerset,* pp. 109, 441.
[439] In Queen Square. Part of the second company of the Bristol Volunteers; see *Memorial,* p. 48. Possibly a descendant of Rev. Arthur William Hood, D. D., vicar of Butleigh in Somerset, who died 38 years old in 1769 or 1770. See Collinson, *The History and Antiquities of Somerset,* p. 449.
[440] Most likely Captain James Burney (1750–1821), naval officer and writer, who accompanied Captain Cook on his last two voyages. In June 1782 Burney was commissioned captain of the Bristol (50 guns), which convoyed twelve East India Company ships to Madras. He wrote two books on naval voyages and a third on the game of whist. The pamphlet *Considerations on the Annual Million Bill, and on the Real and Imaginary Properties of a Sinking Fund* (London, 1787) is attributed to him. Captain Burney was the son of the composer Charles Burney, and the brother of the novelists Fanny Burney and Sarah Burney. He was elected a member of the Royal Society in 1809.
[441] Probably the schoolmaster of Westbury-on-Trym, Redland.
[442] 'Gentleman' in Durdham Down in Gloucestershire. 'Out-voter' at the 1818 election.
[443] Possibly the daughter of William Morgan.

Mr. William Dyer to his son Mr. Robert Dyer[444]
Mrs. D. Coulson to her son Mr. Thomas Coulson[445]
Mr. Francis Gold Jr to his Father Mr. Francis Gold.

2. Audited the Treasurer's Account for the present year, by which it appears that a Balance of Twenty four Pounds three Shillings remains in his hands to be carried to the next year's account.

[444] Robert Dyer was an apothecary like his father. He was apprenticed to him in 1776, freed as his son in 1780 and in partnership with him by 1785. He took over the Wine Street business by 1792, moving to King Square and Unity Street; *Bristol Royal Infirmary*, p. 261.
[445] Possibly an uncle of Thomas Lane Coulson (1808–77), town councillor; see Beaven, *Bristol Lists,* pp. 3, 68.

APPENDIX 1: BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS[1]

The Right Rev. Lewis Bagot (1740–1802)

The fifth son of Sir Walter Wagstaffe Bagot of Blithfield Hall, Staffordshire, and Lady Barbara Legge (a daughter of William Legge, 1st Earl of Dartmouth), Bagot was educated at Westminster School and at Christ Church, Oxford. He was ordained in 1765 and served as canon of Christ Church in 1771–7 and dean of Christ Church in 1777–83. He was appointed Bishop of Bristol in 1782–3 and served briefly as the nominal president of the committee. Translating to the see of Norwich in 1783, and that of St Asaph in 1790, Bagot only attended one committee meeting. He did, however, donate *Biblia Sacra Polyglotta*, edited by B. Waltono (6 vols., London, 1653–7), to the library in 1783.

Peter Baillie, Esq. (1771–1811), Merchant and landowner

Peter Baillie was a West India Merchant, like his father, Evan Baillie (1741–1835), MP for Bristol in 1802–12. He was sent to France to complete his education in 1788, and married Elizabeth, daughter of the prominent plantation owner and sugar merchant John Pinney, in 1797. He joined the Bristol volunteers during the French Revolution and rose to the rank of captain in 1803. Baillie was elected to the committee at the controversial election in 1799, and attended twenty meetings during his term. He became a partner in the Bristol Old Bank in 1806. His family owned property in northern Scotland, and he served as MP for Inverness Burghs in 1807–11, despite being opposed by Henry Dundas, 1st Viscount Melville, who was nicknamed the 'Grand Manager of Scotland'. The Whigs regarded Baillie as a 'hopeful' MP, and one of his two recorded votes of the 1810 session was in favour of Thomas Brand's parliamentary reform motion. His health declined at the end of 1810, and despite temporarily improving after voyages to Ireland and Madeira in May 1811, he relapsed and died on 1 September 1811. His portrait is in the National Portrait Gallery.

[1] The key sources for this section are given above in the list of abbreviations. Other sources consulted include the minutes of the Steadfast Society, BA, Society of Merchant Venturers 8/2, and John Latimer, *The History of the Society of Merchant Venturers of the City of Bristol* (Bristol, 1903).

William Barrett (1727–1819), Surgeon, midwife and historian

Best known as the author of *History and Antiquities of Bristol* (1789), Barrett was a Tory and member of the Steadfast Society. A surgeon and midwife by training, Barrett had been working on his history of Bristol for at least a decade by the time of the Library Society's founding. He was elected to the inaugural committee at the first meeting on 15 December 1772 but attended infrequently and for the last time on 17 May 1774. For further information on Barrett's life and career (including the reception of his *History*), see above pp. xxxvii–xxxix.

John Paine Berjew (1748–1833), Apothecary

John Paine (or Payne) Berjew was an apothecary in High Street, who is described as 'an elegant classical scholar' in Smith, *Bristol Royal Infirmary* (p. 232). Friend of the assistant librarian George Symes Catcott. He served on the committee from 1785 and attended regularly. He was also president of the Dolphin Society, and a member of debating society the Bear's Cub Club, along with several other members of the committee and library. Died in Balham, Surrey.

Lowbridge Bright (1741–1818), Merchant

Lowbridge Bright was a West India merchant, who was a partner with his cousin Richard Bright. Lowbridge Bright was active in privateering during the American War. He was a longstanding member of the library, and elected to the committee at the controversial election in 1799, but does not appear to have attended any meetings. He was an anti-abolitionist and left £100,000 on his death.

Richard Bright, Esq. (1754–1840), Merchant and banker

Resided in 29 Queen Square. Protestant Dissenter and Whig, and a correspondent of Burke. His family was descended from the Brights of Brockbury, Herefordshire. He was a wealthy merchant and served as master of the Society of Merchant Venturers in 1792. Bright joined the library committee in February 1774 to replace the deceased Rev. Samuel Love, and then stayed for the remainder of the eighteenth century. He attended infrequently in the 1770s, but more often subsequently. In 1797, he donated *Specimens of British Minerals, Selected from the Cabinet of Philip Rashleigh, of Menabilly, in the County of Cornwall* (London, 1797) to the library.

Dr. Arthur Broughton (d. 1796), Physician and apothecary[2]

Dr. Arthur Broughton was elected in Dr. Samuel Farr's place at the Bristol Royal Infirmary in 1780. Grandson of Rev. John Broughton, chaplain to the first Duke of Marlborough, and the son of Rev. Thomas Broughton (1704–77), vicar of Bedminster and St Mary Redcliffe, and author of *An Historical Account of Religions* (1756). Arthur Broughton was educated at the Free Grammar School and the University of Edinburgh, and wrote a pamphlet on the influenza in 1783, printed in London for Becket, the Library's first bookseller. He was initially apprenticed as an apothecary to the longstanding committee member William Dyer (see below). In 1783 he moved

[2] See esp. M. D. Crane, 'Arthur Broughton, a late eighteenth century botanist in Bristol and Jamaica', *Archives of Natural History*, 10 (1981–2), pp. 317–30.

to Jamaica, which terminated his short term as a committee member between 1782 and 1783. His brother was Rev. Thomas Broughton (see next entry).

Rev. Thomas Broughton (d. 1812)

Anglican clergyman with a BA from Wadham, Oxford. Thomas Broughton served as rector of Bristol St Peter between 1781 and his death in 1812, and was also domestic chaplain to James Sandilands, 9th Lord Torphichen. He was elected to the committee in 1785 and attended meetings relatively frequently for the remainder of the eighteenth century.

Thomas Evans Bull (d. 1799/1800), Attorney

Attorney in Redcross Street, and presumably a relative of Rev. John Bull, who was also a library member and domestic chaplain to the Duchess Dowager of Atholl, Baroness Strange. Thomas Bull was elected to the committee at the controversial election in 1799, and attended eight meetings before he died.

William Buller, Carpet manufacturer[3]

William Buller was a driving force behind the library in its early years and a regular borrower. He transferred his share in the library to Conrad Heineman in December 1775 on removing to Wilton in Wiltshire, and left the committee on the same occasion. He is likely to have been a carpet manufacturer, and subscribed to various books in the 1780s. It is unclear whether he was related to the prominent gentry and political family of the Bullers of Cornwall, and he is not to be confused with his namesake who was Bishop of Exeter in 1792–6.

Rev. John Camplin (1722–99)

Anglican clergyman and member of the Steadfast Society. MA from Queens, Oxford, and Doctor of Divinity. In 1760 Camplin, then precentor of the Cathedral, was appointed Cathedral librarian at £2 per annum in order to catalogue its books.[4] He was vicar of Bristol St Nicholas between 1761 and his death in 1799. In the 1760s, he served as domestic chaplain to Philip Yonge (1709–1783), Bishop of Bristol in 1758–61 and later of Norwich. Camplin was elected to the committee in January 1783 and attended his last meeting in March 1784. In 1786, he transferred his property in the library to his relative (possibly his son) Rev. Thomas Camplin, vicar of Bristol All Saints between 1790 and his death in 1815.

Rev. Dr. John Casberd (d. 1803)

Vice president of the library society between 1773 and 1801, Casberd was an Anglican clergyman with BA and D.D. degrees from St John's, Oxford. He served as vicar of Bristol St Augustine between 1746 and 1803, and domestic chaplain to Anne, Baroness King and Christopher Wilson, Bishop of Bristol. He wrote and published *A Vindication of Peaceable Robert Matthews, from the Charge of Mrs. Ruscombe's Murder…Addressed to the Inhabitants of St Augustine's Parish* (Bristol,

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[3] *The Universal British Directory of Trade, Commerce, and Manufacture: Volume the Fourth* (London, 1799) p. 762.

[4] BA: DC/A/8/2, Diocese of Bristol: Chapter Minutes, 1751–1801, 28 May 1760.

1781). His descendants were also part of St John's, Oxford, and founded scholarships at the college in the nineteenth century.

George Symes Catcott (1729–1802)

Catcott was assistant librarian between 1790 and his death in 1802. Prior to that, he unsuccessfully tried his hand in business, as a partner in a pewterer firm. A key supporter of Chatterton, Catcott donated Rowley poems with manuscript annotations in June 1777. He authored *A Descriptive Account of a Descent Made into Penpark-Hole, in the Parish of Westbury-Upon-Trim, in the County of Gloucester, in the Year 1775, Now First Published: To which is added, a Copper-Plate Engraving of that Remarkable Cavern. Also, The Narratives of Captains Sturmey and Collins, Containing their Descriptions of the Same, in the Years 1669 and 1682* (Bristol, 1792). His brother was Rev. Alexander Catcott (1725–79), a geologist and theologian who served as the vicar of Temple Church, Bristol.

John Cave, Jr (1765–1842), Manufacturer

John Cave, Jr was a manufacturer of glass and vitriol. He was part of a major commercial family in Bristol, and his father had been a member of the Society of Merchant Venturers. Cave was selected for the committee at the controversial election in 1799, and attended four meetings. He served as president of the Dolphin Society in 1814, and had five children.

Richard Champion (1743–91), Merchant and manufacturer

Richard Champion was a key member of the library in its early years.[5] He was a Quaker and leading Whig in Bristol, and Burke's chief associate and supporter in the city. His family had been involved in the Bristol Royal Infirmary from its foundation, and he was elected treasurer in 1768. He was a merchant and pioneering porcelain manufacturer, but he struggled financially during the American conflict, and left Bristol in the early 1780s, first for Newcastle-under-Lyme in Staffordshire and then for London to serve as Burke's deputy in government in 1782 and 1783. He emigrated to America in 1784, settled in Camden, South Carolina, where he became a naturalised American citizen and served briefly in the state assembly. Author of *Considerations on the Present Situation of Great Britain and the United States of America* (1784) and *Comparative Reflections on the Past and Present Political, Commercial, and Civil State of Great Britain* (1787).

Rev. Richard Collinson (1737–1811)

Anglican clergyman, serving as clerk at St Stephen and earlier as rector of Kingweston in Somerset. Resided in Park Street. Longstanding member of the library and committee member from 1781. Born in Lowther, Westmorland, and married Cecila Eagles (d. 1782), who was almost certainly a relative of committee member Thomas Eagles. He had two children: Rev. John Collinson (1781–1857) and Cecilia Collinson (b. 1782, d. 1783). He is almost certainly related to Rev. John Collinson (1757–93), who wrote *History and Antiquities of the County of Somerset* (1791–92).

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[5] See esp. Max Skjönsberg, 'This Revolution in the Town': Richard Champion and the Early Years of the Bristol Library Society', *Library & Information History,* 37 (2021), pp. 149–67.

The Right Rev. Folliott Cornewall (1754–1831)

Folliott Cornewall was the second surviving son of Frederick Cornewall of Delbury, Shropshire (1706–88), captain in the Royal Navy, and Mary, daughter of Francis Herbert of Ludlow, first cousin of the first Earl of Powis. Educated at St John's, Cambridge, and bishop of three sees, including Bristol between 1797 and 1802. Unlike most other Bishops of Bristol who served in the symbolic position of president, he attended committee meetings regularly. He published *A Sermon preached before the House of Commons on 30 Jan. 1782*, and also *A Fast Sermon preached before the House of Lords in 1798*.

The Right Rev. Henry Reginald Courtenay (1741–1803)

Henry Reginald Courtenay was the eldest surviving son of Henry Reginald Courtenay, MP, and Catherine, daughter of Allen Bathurst, 1st Earl Bathurst. He was Bishop of Bristol in 1794–7, and translated to the see of Exeter in March 1797. Degrees from Christ Church, Oxford.

George Daubeny, Esq. (1742–1806), Sugar baker and MP

Sugar baker and MP for Bristol in 1781–84, as the 'Tory' candidate. Son of George Daubeny, Bristol merchant, and married Martha, daughter of Slade Baker in 1766. Engaged in sugar refining, he was also a partner in the firm Stevens and Cave, glass manufacturers, and in 1786 helped to found the Bristol banking firm Ames, Cave and Co. As a government supporter in parliament, Daubeny spoke 'with great heat' in the House of Commons on 27 November 1781 in favour of continuing the American war, and declared that the citizens of Bristol 'were willing to sacrifice half their fortune in the prosecution of it'.[6] He again contested Bristol at the general election of 1784, but was defeated. He held multiple political offices at the local level, and was an active member of several political and civic clubs, including the Steadfast Society, the Society of Merchant Venturers, and the Dolphin Society, where he was president. He was also governor of the Bristol Corporation of the Poor. He was a member of the library committee in 1772–73, 1776–82 and from 1785.

John Deverell, Esq (d. 1798/99)

John Deverell was a 'gentleman' in Park Street. He was the the son and heir of the surgeon John Deverell senior, who died in 1760. He stepped down as treasurer for health reasons in 1791 after fifteen years' service. Possibly a relative and perhaps the brother of the religious and moral essayist Mary Deverell (1731–1805) of Gloucestershire. Many of the library's members subscribed to Mary Deverell's works, and John Deverell stood out by subscribing to two copies of the second edition of her *Sermons on Various Subjects* (1776 [1774]). He also subscribed to her *Miscellanies in Prose and Verse* (1781). His wife, Mrs. H. Deverell, inherited his share in the property upon his death. He was a member of the Steadfast Society and thus a Bristol Tory.

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[6] *HoP*.

William Dyer (1722–1805), Apothecary

Apothecary, and longstanding member of the library and a frequent user. He served on the committee between 1779 and 1791, and transferred his share in the library to his son, Robert Dyer, in 1801. One of his other sons, Thomas Webb Dyer, was also a member of the library. Two library members were his one-time apprentices: Arthur Broughton and Francis Gold, the latter going on to be his business partner.

Thomas Eagles (1746–1812), Merchant

Thomas Eagles showed up to the first public meeting of the library on 15 December 1772, and was a member of the committee from 1773. He was one of the most frequent attendees of the committee meetings, rivalled only by Dr. Plomer. A member of the Steadfast Society, and thus a Bristol Tory, Eagles was educated at Winchester College. Though unable to become a clergyman, he became a classical scholar, and left several unpublished posthumous writings.

Rev. Abraham Elton, Esq. (1755–1842)

Abraham Elton Esq. served on the committee as a young man between 1776 and 1781, probably due to the influence of his father, Sir Abraham Isaac Elton (1717–90), who was town clerk of Bristol and member of a powerful political family in the city, and made several donations to the library. When he was ordained in 1781, he left the committee and was appointed curate of St Clement (now All Saints) in West Bromwich. He gave up his living, however, when he inherited Clevedon Court near Bristol in 1790. He then became the fifth baronet and heir to a large Bristol mercantile fortune, which was rooted in slavery.

William Brame Elwyn, Esq, Barrister

William B. Elwyn contributed £30 'In Defence of the State' in 1798 and was captain of the Bristol Volunteer Cavalry during the French Revolution. He was elected as a committee member at the end of the period treated in this volume, in 1800.

Rev. John Prior Estlin (1747–1817)

Unitarian minister who worked at Lewin's Mead. He opened a school in St Michael's Hill, and was so popular that his pupils obtained for him an LL.D. from Glasgow. Estlin was himself educated by Joseph Priestley and John Aikin at the Warrington Academy, and published several religious and philosophical works from 1790. Estlin was present at the preliminary meeting on 2 December 1772, and was active on the library committee throughout the period in this volume. Attended the meetings fairly regularly, though not nearly as often as Thomas Eagles and James Plomer. He used the library frequently as a borrower.

Dr. Samuel Farr (1741–95), F.R.S.

Prominent physician and a founding member of the library, who served on the committee between 1772 and 1779, when his family began experiencing severe economic difficulties during the American war. His family were Presbyterians and most of them were engaged in trade. They were Whigs and his brother Paul Farr was

a close supporter of Burke until he left public life due to bankruptcy in 1779. Samuel Farr was educated at the Warrington Academy, the University of Edinburgh, and Leiden University, where he took the degree of MD in 1765. He was a physician to the Bristol Infirmary from 1767 to 1780, and elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1779. Farr wrote several works on medicine and natural philosophy, which he donated to the library.

Thomas Farr (d.1791), Esq. Merchant

Brother of Samuel Farr and a member of the commercial and political arm of the Farr family, led by their father Richard Farr, known as Alderman Farr. Thomas Farr was master of the Society of Merchant Venturers in 1771 and mayor of Bristol in 1775. He served on the library committee in 1773–75.

John Ford (1731–1807), Surgeon

John Ford was a surgeon in 4 Park Street and member of the Steadfast Society and thus a Bristol Tory. The son of Rev. Thomas Ford of Wells, Somersetshire, Ford was a surgeon at the Bristol Royal Infirmary between 1759 and 1775. When he was elected in 1759, his competitors were future library members William Barrett and Abraham Ludlow, and he was chosen by a large majority, replacing his brother Dr. James Ford. This was the first election for the Infirmary, held at the Guildhall. Ford was a founding member of the library, and served on the committee until 1787. He gained a Doctorate from Edinburgh in 1779.

John Garnett, Esq., Merchant

The merchant John Garnett served on the committee between 1776 and 1787. In the middle of 1782, his title changed from 'Mr.' to 'Esq.', a reflection of his election to the Common Council, which he served between 1782 and 1792, in 1783–4 as Sheriff. Garnett was a master of the Society of Merchant Venturers in 1794, and member of the Bear's Cub Club. He was granted a patent in 1793 for an invention 'to lessen friction in all kinds of wheels, blocks for ships, grind stones and rollers'.[7]

Rev. Edward Colston Grevile (1741–1830)

An Anglican Clergyman, Rev. Edward Colston Grevile was either a descendant of the notorious slave trader Edward Colston (1636–1721), or alternatively named after him. He was the son of Bristol apothecary Giles Grevile (1703–85), whose brother, fellow apothecary and business partner Brereton Grevile, was master to James Plomer during his apprenticeship (see below). With a BA and an MA from Pembroke, Oxford, he was rector of Bristol St Stephen between 1793 and 1830, as well as domestic chaplain to Henry Yelverton, 3rd Earl of Sussex and 18th Lord Grey of Ruthin. Grevile was a longstanding member and frequent user of the library. He was selected for the committee at the controversial election in 1799, and does not appear to have attended any meetings.

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[7] *Directory 1793–4*, p. 41.

Edmund Griffith, Esq. (d. 1835), Barrister at Law

Edmund Griffith joined the committee in 1790 and attended the meetings frequently. He served as a Justice of the Peace in 1787, Steward to the Sheriff's Court in 1814, and Recorder of Glastonbury in 1809–21.[8] Between 1819 and and 1834, he was a Metropolitan Police magistrate.

Rev. John Hallam (1728–1811)

John Hallam – father of the historian Henry Hallam – was dean of Bristol between 1781 and 1800 and canon of Windsor from 1775 to 1811. The Hallam family had strong Lincolnshire connections, and John Hallam's father served twice as mayor of Boston. John Hallam acquired property in the villages around Boston, which Henry Hallam inherited in 1812. John Hallam served on the library committee from 1782 to 1794.

Charles Joseph Harford (1764–1830), Esq., Merchant

The Harfords were a major commercial and political Quaker family in Bristol.[9] They were merchants, brass manufacturers, and bankers, and came to prominence with Charles Harford (1631–1709), the first Harford to enter trade in Bristol, who was the son of Mark Harford (1570–1652) of Marshfield in Gloucestershire. The Harford family, through its principal Bristol branches, formed a major business empire. Charles Joseph Harford is likely to have been a son of Joseph Harford (see below), and joined the committee in 1792. Unlike many of his relations, he was not a Quaker and was educated at Cambridge and Lincoln's Inn, later elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London and publishing items on Somerset antiquities in its house journal *Archaeologia*. He was part of the same antiquarian circle as Seyer, collecting material on the history of Bristol and its environs.[10]

Joseph Harford, Esq. (1741–1802), Merchant, manufacturer and banker

Joseph Harford led the expansion of the Harford family's commercial empire. He was part of the Stapleton branch of the family, which originated with Charles Harford (1704–46), grocer. A leading Whig in Bristol, and a close supporter of Burke together with his fellow Quaker Richard Champion. He converted to Anglicanism, or at least he took the oaths, when he joined the Common Council of Bristol in 1779. He became a leading opposition spokesperson in the Common Council and, in 1788, he became chairman of the first local abolitionist committee. He took Burke's line rather than Charles James Fox's on the war against France in the 1790s.

Mark Harford, Sr (1700–88), Merchant and brass manufacturer

Joseph Harford's uncle (see above for the Harford family). The Stoke Bishop line of the family was the branch most intimately involved with brass-making. It began with Mark Harford (1700–1788), eighth child of Edward Harford and Elizabeth Jones. Mark Harford was a haberdasher of small wares who became connected with the brass trade through his marriage to Love Andrews, granddaughter of one

[8] 'Corporation of Glastonbury', *Accounts and Papers of the House of Commons*, vol.45 (1834), p. 265.
[9] See ODNB's article on the Harford family by Peter Wakelin.
[10] Barry, *Raising Spirits*, pp. 58–59.

of the founders of the Bristol Brass Company. He served on the library committee for a couple of years in the middle of the 1770s. He and his son often frequented the library together, as is clear from the borrowing records.

Mark Harford, Jr (1738–1798), Merchant and brass manufacturer

Joseph Harford's cousin (see above for the Harford family). Mark Harford, Jr (1738–1798) increased the family's stake in Bristol Brass Company by marrying Sarah (*d*. 1798), daughter of Samuel Lloyd, in 1762, and became its leader. In the following years it became a major industrial enterprise of global proportions, owning copper mines, smelters, and brassworks, in Cornwall, Bristol and its environs, Esher in Surrey, Lower Redbrook in the Wye valley, and Swansea. He reorganized the company in 1788 as the Harford and Bristol Brass and Copper Company with additional capital of £100,000 and ten members, of whom six were Harfords. He retired in 1796 and leadership of the company passed for six years to Joseph Harford. Mark Harford, Jr served on the library committee for a couple of years in the middle of the 1770s.

Rev. Thomas Johnes (d. 1826)

The Anglican clergyman Thomas Johnes was elected as librarian with a large majority in 1773. He came to Bristol as a poor man and held a variety of jobs before going to Jesus College, Oxford. Thereafter he became chaplain to the Bristol Royal Infirmary, a curate and rector, a domestic chaplain to the Earl of St. Vincent, and ultimately Archdeacon of Barnstaple, which led to his resignation as librarian in 1809. There is a memorial to Johnes at Exeter Cathedral.

Rev. Richard King (1748–1810)

Anglican clergyman, with a BA and an MA from New College, Oxford, and thereafter appointed to college livings of Worthen, Shropshire, and Steeple Morden, Cambridgeshire. Joined the committee at the end of the period covered in this volume, in 1800.

Rev. Charles Peter Layard (1750–1803) F.R.S.

John Hallam's replacement as dean of Bristol in 1800 and elected as a committee member of the library in 1801. D.D. from St John's, Cambridge and Fellow of the Royal Society.

Rev. Samuel Love (d. 1773)

Vicar of Banwell in Somerset, and BA and MA degrees from Balliol, Oxford. Attended seven regular committee meetings before his death in 1773.

Dr. Robert Lovell, Sr (1753–1823)

Robert Lovell, Sr was a Quaker physician who was born in Barbados. He practiced first at Ipswich and came to Bristol in 1792, and replaced Francis Ward on the library committee in 1799. His son Robert Lovell, Jr (1771–1796) was a radical freethinker who wrote *Bristol: A Satire* (1794), in which he attacked Bristol's oligarchic politics. Lovell, Sr disapproved of his son's marriage to Mary (1771–1861/2), daughter

of Stephen Fricker, as she was a non-Quaker and had become an actress after her father's bankruptcy. Lovell was also a member of the Bear's Club.

The Right. Rev. Spencer Madan (1729–1813)

The son of Colonel Martin Madan and Judith Madan of London, and younger brother of Martin Madan, barrister, clergyman and writer, known for his contribution to Methodist music and controversial views on marriage expressed in *Thelyphthora; Or, a Treatise on Female Ruin* (3 vols., 1780–1). Madan was Bishop of Bristol between 1792 and 1794, and thereafter Bishop of Peterborough. Educated at Trinity College, Cambridge. Madan was twice married, first to Lady Charlotte, second daughter of Charles Cornwallis, 1st Earl Cornwallis. In 1796, he married Mary Vyse, daughter of William Vyse of Lichfield and sister of William Vyse (1741–1816), archdeacon of Coventry.

John Merlott, Esq. (d. 1785) Sugar refiner

John Merlott Esq. became a member of the Bristol Cmmon Council in 1769 and later an alderman. A Whig and supporter of Burke, Merlott was a wealthy sugar refiner who made many charitable donations, especially for the benefit of the blind. His daughter, Elizabeth Merlott, inherited his share in the Library Society and continued his charitable work. Merlott was present at the first public meeting of the Library Society on 15 December 1772, and was re-elected to the committee annually, attending meetings frequently until his death on 21 December 1785.

Rev. William Milton (1743–1824)

Educated at St. John Baptist College and New College, Oxford, William Milton was the son of a Bristol distiller. He was appointed as vicar of Heckfield, Hampshire, in 1774 but after only one year he installed a curate and moved to Bristol, then to the nearby village of Stapleton, and eventually to Clifton. He married Mary, the daughter of Francis Gresley, a respected apothecary who lived in Bristol's fashionable Queen Square, and his wife Cecily. Milton was an inventor whose most important idea was the creation of a tidal bypass to control the water levels of the Avon, allowing ships to sail in and out of Bristol more freely. He was a frequent attendee of the committee, and indeed a frequent borrower of books. He was father of the author and travel writer Frances Milton Trollope.

Samuel Munckley (1720–1802), Merchant and shipowner

Samuel Munckley was brought up by his father-in-law, John Duntze of Exeter. He came to Bristol in 1738, aged 14. He became master of the Society of Merchant Venturers in 1768 and a partner in Munckley, Gibbs and Richards, John Freeman Copper Co., Harford Bank (1769–74) and Whitson Court Sugar House (1775–83).[11] A Presbyterian and a Whig, Munckley was sympathetic to the cause of the American colonies. He was known as 'the Chancellor' because of his soundness of judgment.[12] He resided in 53 Queen Square and 8 Princes Street. He was chosen for the committee in 1773, and again between 1776 and 1798. While he was an infrequent attendee of

[11] For extensive details about his commercial activites, see esp. W. E. Minchinton, *The Trade in Bristol in the Eighteenth Century* (Bristol, 1957).
[12] Ibid., p. 37 n14.

the committee meetings, he remained a regular user of the library. He died on 11 July 1801.

The Right Rev. Thomas Newton (1704–82)

Thomas Newton was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and served as Bishop of Bristol between 1761 and his death in 1782. He was the first Bishop to serve as the symbolic president of the library society. Newton was a biblical scholar, but attended only one meeting of the library society. He used the library more often, however, and his own *Dissertations on the Prophecies* (1754) was a popular book among the members. He also edited and annotated John Milton's *Paradise Lost*.

John Noble, Esq. (d. 1828), Merchant

John Noble was a merchant and local office holder. Mayor in 1791, leader of the Whigs in the Common Council, and supporter of Burke. Member of the Union Club and the Independent Constitutional Club. Re-elected to the committee every year during the eighteenth century, but attended only four meetings in 1773 and one in 1776. Noble was infamous in Bristol for his role in the Bristol Bridge riot of 1793, in which more than sixty people were shot.[13]

John Peach (d. 1774), Linen draper

John Peach, a linen draper, was present at the first recorded meeting on 2 December 1772, but died in the early years of the library. The celebrated Enlightenment philosopher and historian David Hume was briefly Peach's apprentice in 1734 and remained on good terms with him. Peach is believed to have edited drafts of Hume's *History of England* for style, removing more than two hundred so-called 'Scotticisms' to help make the text more palatable for an English audience.[14] Peach was later one of Hannah More's patrons.

Dr. James Plomer (1714–1803), Physician

Dr. James Plomer was educated at the Free Grammar School and then apprenticed to the apothecary Brereton Grevile in 1732 for a £65 fee. He was freed as his apprentice in 1739, went to the University of Glasgow to study medicine at the age of 40, and published his thesis, *De Iliaca Passione* (1759). His diploma contains Adam Smith's signature. He returned to Bristol and practiced medicine at his father's house on St Michael's Hill. He was elected to the Bristol Royal Infirmary in 1761 and resigned in 1798, having served as senior physician for sixteen years. Attended the committee meetings of the library frequently between 1773 and 1798, by which time he was 84 years old. A reputed Deist.

Rev. Samuel Seyer (1757–1831), Educator

Seyer was an Anglican clergyman, with an MA from Corpus Christi, Oxford. He was a teacher and worked as rector of St Michael's and master of the Bristol Grammar School. He studied Bristol's history all his life, and wrote *Memoirs, Historical and Topographical, of Bristol and its Neighbourhood* (2 vols., 1821–23), and several

[13] Mark Harrison, *Crowds and History: Mass Phenomena in English Towns, 1790–1835* (Cambridge, 1988), pp. 271–88.
[14] Ernest Campbell Mossner, *The Life of David Hume* (1954; London, 2001), p. 89.

other works. Seyer became vice president of the library society in 1801, when he replaced Rev. John Casberd. He later served as domestic chaplain to the Bishop of Bristol in the 1820s.

Joseph Smith, Esq. (d. 1815), Merchant

A Presbyterian merchant and a friend of Burke in the 1770s, along with his fellow Dissenting Whigs Richard Champion and Joseph Harford. He held several political and civic offices at Bristol, including mayor in 1794 and master of ceremonies in 1800. Although he was present at the preliminary meeting on 2 December 1772, he did not join the committee until 1788. He took over as treasurer after John Deverell in 1791. Smith died on 17 January 1815, aged 70.

Rev. Benjamin Spry (1741–1806)

Benjamin Spry was an Anglican Tory and member of the Steadfast Society. He held an MA from Merton, Oxford, and served as vicar of Bedminster St John the Baptist between 1775 and 1806. He was a member of the committee for ten years between 1779 and 1789, but his attendance became much less frequent after the early 1780s and he attended for the final time in January 1786.

Dr. William Stephen, Physician

Physician in Park Street, who was selected for the committee at the controversial election in 1799, and attended nine meetings. His name is given consistently as 'Stephen' in the Library Society records, but he occasionally appears as 'Stephens' in some city directories.

James Tobin, Esq. (1736–1817), Merchant and plantation owner

A West India merchant and plantation owner, James Tobin was a prominent pro-slavery campaigner and pamphleteer. He was probably the son of a sea captain, James Tobin (1698–1770), and his mother may have been a Miss Hope. He married Elizabeth (1744/5–1824), daughter of Nevis planter George Webbe. Tobin was a member of the Linnean Society and Bristol's West India Society. He was elected to the committee in 1791, and attended the meetings frequently.

Rev. [John] Walker (d. 1780/81)

References to Rev. Mr. Walker in the committee minutes most likely refer to the Prebendary of Wells Cathedral, Prebend of Combe II, between 1742 and 1780. John Walker had a BA and MA from Oriel, Oxford. Committee member between 1775 and 1777, and attended sixteen meetings in total.

Francis Ward (d. 1797/98)

Francis Ward was an attorney in 3 Small Street, and a member of the Dolphin Society. He was a committee member between 1786 and 1797, and a frequent attendee. Richard Brickdale Ward, attorney and member of the Catch Club, inherited his share in the library, and he was replaced on the committee by Dr. Robert Lovell, Sr.

The Right Rev. Christopher Wilson (c. 1714–92)

Christopher Wilson was the son of Richard Wilson, Recorder of Leeds, and he was educated at Leeds Grammar School, and later St Catharine's College, Cambridge. He graduated BA 1737, MA 1740, D.D. 1753. Wilson served as a Fellow of St Catharine's 1737–1745, and as Proctor 1742–43. He was appointed as rector of Barnes from 1768, and as Bishop of Bristol from 1783 until his death in 1792. He was married to Anne Gibson, daughter of Dr Edmund Gibson, Bishop of London.

APPENDIX 2: MEMBERSHIP LISTS

This appendix reproduces the names on the membership lists from the prefixes to the 1774, 1782, 1790 and 1798 catalogues, exactly as they appear in these lists. First names have been added and some initials have been spelled out for clarity. For biographical information about many of these members, see the introduction, footnotes and Appendix 1 (for the committee members) in this edition, as well as biographical data published in due course on the project website www.c18librariesonline.org.

Catalogue 1774

Members for Life by Virtue of their Donations

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Bristol [Thomas Newton]
The Right Hon. Lord Viscount Clare

Mr. Richard Aldridge
Levi Ames, Esq.
Mr. Bartholomew Alston
Mr. William Arnold
Mr. Richard Ash
Miss Adams

Mr. John Innys Baker
Jeremiah Baker, Esq.
Rev. Slade Baker
Mr. Samuel Barry
William Battersby
Mr. Joseph Beck
Mr. John Brice Becket
Henry Bengough, Esq.
Mr. John Paine Berjew
Thomas Blagden, Esq.
Mr. Nathaniel Brice
Mr. Edward Bridges
Henry Bright, Esq.
Richard Bright, Esq.
Mr. Lowbridge Bright
Rev. Thomas Broughton

Matthew Brickdale, Esq.
Edmund Burke, Esq.

Mr. William Buller

Rev. John Camplin, Sr
Rev. Dr. John Casberd
Mr. Thomas Cave
Mr. John Champion
Mr. Richard Champion
Mr. Joseph Coates
Rev. Richard Collinson
Mr. William Cornish
Mr. William Cowles
John Crofts, Esq.
Henry Cruger Esq.
Mr. William Cuninghame
Mrs. Curtis

Mr. William Daniel
George Daubeny, Esq.
Mr. John Daubeny
Rev. John Deake
Rev. Daniel Debat
John Deverell, Esq.
Dr. Archibald Drummond

John Durbin, Esq.
Mr. William Dyer

Mr. Thomas Eagles
Sir Abraham Elton, Bart.
Rev. John Prior Estlin

John Farr, Esq.
Mr. Paul Farr
Richard Farr, Esq.
Dr. Samuel Farr
Thomas Farr, Esq.
Rev. John Strode Foot
Mr. Edward Foord
Mr. John Ford
Mr. John Fowler
John Freeman, Esq.

Mr. John Garnett
Mr. Garnsey
Mr. William Gibbons
Mr. George Gibbs
Mrs. Ann Gordon
William Gordon, Esq.
Mr. William Green
Mr. John Gresley

Robert Hale, Esq.
Rev. Christopher Hand
Mr. J. W. Harding
Mr. Joseph Harford
Mr. Mark Harford, Sr
Mr. Mark Harford, Jr
Thomas Harris, Esq.
Mr. Thomas Hayes
Mr. William Hetling
Henry Hobhouse, Esq.
John Hobhouse, Esq.

Mr. James Ireland, Jr

Mr. John James
Mr. James Jones
Mr. William Jones

Mr. Thomas Lediard
Rev. Charles Lee
Mr. John Lewis

Henry Lippincott, Esq.
Mr. Harford Lloyd
Mr. Abraham Lloyd
Benjamin Loscombe, Esq.
Dr. Abraham Ludlow

Mr. John Madox
John Merlott, Esq.
Rev. Michael Miller
Dr. William Moncrieffe
Mr. Samuel Munckley

Thomas Nelmes, Esq.
Mr. Edward Neufville
Mr. James New
Rev. John Newton
Mr. Edward Nicholas, Jr
John Noble, Esq.

Mr. Jeremiah Osborne, Jr

Mr. David Parris, Jr
Mr. Henry Pater
Dr. John Paul
Mr. John Peach
Mr. James Plomer
Andrew Pope, Esq.
John Powell, Jr
Philip Protheroe, Esq.

Mr. Onesiphorous Power

Rev. Francis Randolph
Mr. Andrew Reeve
Dr. Thomas Rigge
Rev. Thomas Robins
Mr. Thomas Rothley

Mr. Francesco Sastres
Mr. Joseph Shapland
Mr. Charles Smith
Mr. John Seager
Mr. John Smith
Joseph Smith, Esq.
Morgan Smith, Esq.
Mr. Richard Smith
Rev. George Stonhouse

William Turner, Esq.

Rev. John Walker
Mr. Francis Ward
Mr. Nathaniel Watts
John Fisher Weare, Esq.

Mr. Thomas Woodall
Mr. Samuel Worrall
Mr. Samuel Worrall, Jr
Dr. John Wright

Catalogue 1782

Members for Life by Virtue of their Donations

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Bristol [Thomas Newton]
The Right Hon. Lord Viscount Clare

Matthew Brickdale, Esq.
Edmund Burke, Esq.

Members by Virtue of their Office

Henry Cruger Esq. Master of the Society of Merchants.
Mr. John Fowler, Jr. Warden of the Society of Merchants.

Joseph Harford, Esq. Warden of the Society of Merchants.
Mr. James Daltera, Treasurer of the Society of Merchants.

Mr. Richard Aldridge
Levi Ames Esq.
Mr. Richard Ash

Jeremiah Baker Esq.
Rev. Slade Baker
Mr. William Barrett
Mr. Nehemiah Bartley
William Battersby, Esq.
Mr. Joseph Beck
Mr. John Brice Becket
Henry Bengough, Esq.
Mr. John Paine Berjew
William Berkin, Esq.
Thomas Blagden, Esq.
Mr. Nathaniel Brice
Richard Bright, Esq.
Mr. Lowbridge Bright
Mr. William Broderip
Rev. Thomas Broughton
Dr. Arthur Broughton

Rev. John Camplin, Sr
Mr. Henry Casamajor
Rev. Dr. John Casberd
Mr. Thomas Cave
Mr. Richard Champion
Mr. William Coates
Mr. Anthony Palmer Collings
Rev. Richard Collinson

Rev. John Cooke
John Cooke, Esq.
Mr. William Cornish
Mrs. Mary Cowles
Daniel Crespin, Esq.
Mr. William Cuninghame

Mr. William Daniel
George Daubeny, Esq.
Rev. John Deake
Rev. Daniel Debat
John Deverell, Esq.
Dr. Archibald Drummond
Dr. Colin Drummond
Sir John Durbin
Mr. William Dyer

Mr. Thomas Eagles
Rev. Mr. Abraham Elton
Rev. John Prior Estlin
Rev. Dr. Caleb Evans

Mr. Paul Farr
Mr. William Farr
Mr. George Fisher
Mr. John Ford
Miss Margaret French
Mr. William Fry

Mr. John Garnett

Rev. Peter Gautier
Mr. William Gibbons
Mr. George Gibbs
Mr. Francis Gold
Mr. George Goldwyer
Mrs. Ann Gordon
Mr. John Gordon
William Gordon, Esq.
Mr. William Green
Mr. John Gresley
Rev. Edward Colston Grevile

The Very Rev. John Hallam, Dean of Bristol
Mr. J. W. Harding
Mr. Joseph Harford
Mr. Mark Harford
Mrs. Harford
Mr. John S. Harford
Thomas Harris, Esq.
Mr. Thomas Hayes
Mr. Robert Haynes
Mr. Conrad Heineman
Captain Herring
Mr. William Hetling
James Hill, Esq.
Mr. Jeremiah Hill, Jr
Henry Hobhouse, Esq.
John Hobhouse, Esq.
Robert Kyrle Hutcheson, Esq.

Mr. James Ireland, Jr
Rev. William Ireland

Mr. James Jones
Mr. Richard Jones
Mr. William Jones

James Kirkpatrick, Esq.

Rev. Charles Lee
Mr. John Lewis
Benjamin Loscombe, Esq.
Dr. Abraham Ludlow

Mr. John Madox
Mr. John Maud
John Merlott, Esq.
Richard Meyler, Esq.
Mr. Diederick Meyerhoff
Rev. William Milton
Dr. William Moncrieffe
Mr. Samuel Munckley
Sir Stephen Nash
Mr. Edward Nicholas, Jr
John Noble, Esq.

Mr. Jeremiah Osborne, Jr

Mr. Edward Parker
Mr. James Plomer
Andrew Pope, Esq.
Mr. Onesiphorous Power
Philip Protheroe, Esq.

Rev. Francis Randolph
Dr. Thomas Rigge
Mr. Thomas Rothley
Mr. Thomas Rycroft

Mr. John Sage
Mr. John Seager
Rev. Samuel Seyer
Mr. Joseph Shapland
Mr. Thomas Shute
Joseph Smith, Esq.
Mr. Richard Smith
Rev. Benjamin Spry

William Turner, Esq.

John Vaughan, Esq.

Mr. John Terrick Waller
Mr. Francis Ward
Rev. Robert Watson
Mr. Nathaniel Watts
John Fisher Weare, Esq.
Rev. Sydenham Teast Wilde
Mr. Nathan Windey
Mr. Thomas Woodall
Mr. Samuel Worrall
Dr. John Wright

Rev. Henry Farr Yeatman

1790 Catalogue

Members for Life by Virtue of their Donations

Matthew Brickdale, Esq.
Edmund Burke, Esq.

Members by Virtue of their Office

John Daubeny, Esq. Master of the Society of Merchants.
William Miles, Esq. Warden of the Society of Merchants.
Thomas Daniel, Jr, Esq. Warden of the Society of Merchants.
Mr. James Daltera, Treasurer of the Society of Merchants.

Mr. Richard Aldridge
Levi Ames Esq.
Mr. Edward Ash
Mrs. Mary Adams

The Right Rev. Christopher [Wilson] Lord Bishop of Bristol
Mr. Peter Baillie
Dr. A. Bain
Jeremy Baker, Esq.
Rev. Slade Baker
Mr. Joseph Barnsdale
Mr. William Barrett
William Battersby, Esq.
Mr. Joseph Beck
Mr. John Brice Becket
Henry Bengough, Esq.
Mr. John Paine Berjew
William Berkin, Esq.
Rev. William Berkin
Miss Grace Blackwood
Thomas Blagden, Esq.
Mr. Samuel Brice
Richard Bright, Esq.
Mr. Lowbridge Bright
Mr. William Broderip
Rev. Thomas Broughton
Mr. John Broughton
Mr. William Bulgin
Rev. John Bull
Mr. Thomas Evans Bull
Mr. Daniel Burges

Rev. Thomas Camplin
Mr. Henry Casamajor
Rev. Dr. John Casberd
Mr. John Cave, Jr
Mr. Thomas Cave

Mrs. Mary Clayfield
Mr. William Coates
Rev. Thomas Cockayne
Mr. Anthony Palmer Collings
Rev. Richard Collinson
Rev. John Cooke
Mr. John Cooke
Mrs. Coulson
Mr. Thomas Cross

Thomas Daniel, Jr, Esq.
John Davie, Esq.
Mr. David Davies
Mark Davies, Esq.
George Daubeny, Esq.
Mr. William Delpratt
John Deverell, Esq.
Dr. Archibald Drummond
Dr. Colin Drummond
Mr. Henry Dupont
Sir John Durbin
Mr. William Dyer
Mr. Thomas Webb Dyer

Mr. Thomas Eagles
Rev. Sir Abraham Elton, Bart.
Rev. William Embury Edwards
Rev. John Prior Estlin
Rev. Dr. Caleb Evans

Mr. Paul Farr
Mr. William Farr
Mr. Francis Fisher
Mr. George Fisher
Rev. John Strode Foot
Miss Mary Foot
Dr. Edward Long Fox
Mr. William Fry

Rev. Peter Gautier
Mr. William Gibbons
Mr. George Gibbs
Mr. Francis Gold
Mr. George Goldwyer
John Gordon, Esq.
John Gordon, Jr, Esq.
William Gordon, Esq.
Thomas Graeme, Esq.
Rev. Edward Colston Grevile
Edmund Griffith, Esq.
Mr. Thomas Griffiths

The Very Rev. John Hallam, Dean of Bristol
Mr. George Webb Hall
Mr. J. W. Harding
Charles Harford, Esq.
Mr. Edward Harford
Mr. John S. Harford
Joseph Harford, Esq.
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APPENDIX 3: LETTER ABOUT THE 1774 ANNUAL MEETING

Richard Champion to [unnamed], 8 February 1774[15]
It will give you pleasure to hear that the first of our annual meeting at the Library has turned out to every ones satisfaction and promises to be a valuable acquisition to the Town[.]The meeting yesterday was full and the election conducted in an agreeable manner[.] The seraching [*sic*; searching?] was as follows in the first list except where marked[:]

R. Champion	28
Thomas Farr	27
W Barrett	27
Mr Marlot [Merlott]	27
Mark Harford	26
Joseph Harford	25
Sam[uel] Farr MD	26
George Daubeny	25
John Ford	24
John[16] Plomer MD	24
Elected this year[:] Rich[ard] Bright	24
John Peach	24
Sam[uel] Monkly	24
John Deverell	23
Thomas Eagles	23
Revd. Mr. Estlin	20
John Noble	19
Elected this year Rev. W[illiam] Lee	17

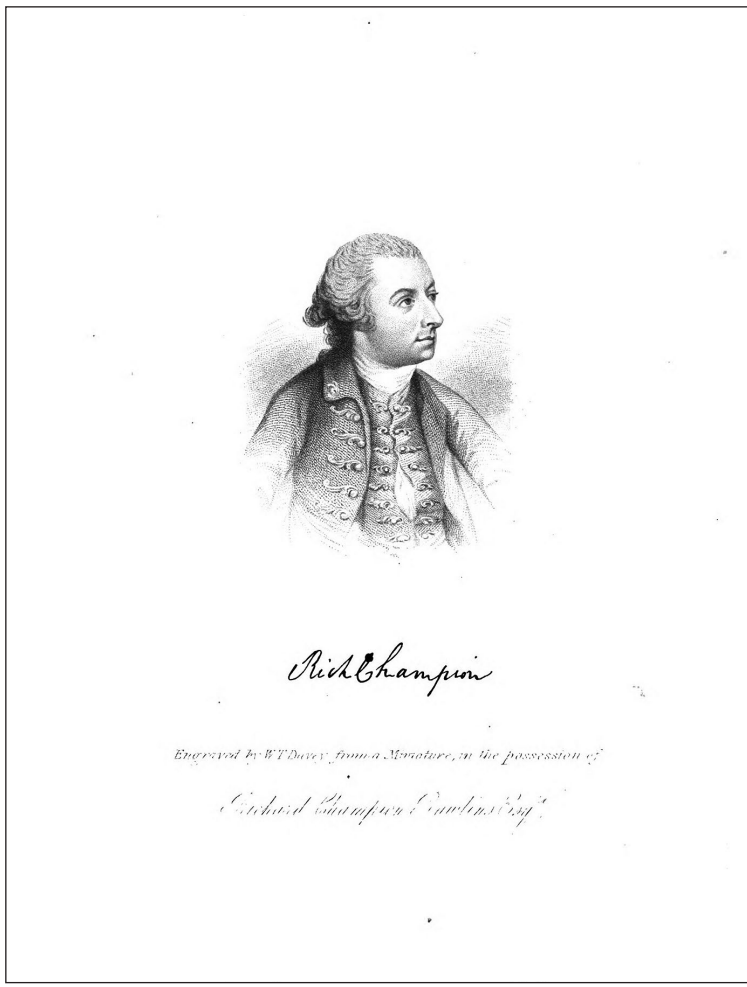
but the Revd. Mr Camplin who was in last year will it is expected be in his place as he had the next n. and Mr. Lee will decline. The Bishop President and also the Rev. Dr. Casberd continued Vice President and Mr. W. Buller Secretary.

I have highly pleased [*sic*] with this Institution the more so because [a city] for Commerce and Dirt so renowned is as remarkable for its want of Literature. It is now about twelve months since we first agreed upon this plan of a public library. we were in number about half a dozen who first caused / if I may express myself in such a

[15] Richard Champion letter book, 1773–1775, New York Public Library n.f.
[16] I.e., James.

manner / this Revolution in the Town, for I may fain[17] call it one and I hope I may live to see Thistol [Bristol] as famous for a liberal cultivation of the Sciences as it is for the cultivation of Trade and Manufacture. The Disposal is at the Discretion of the Committee who meet once a fortnight to take into consideration the Books which are ordered by any of the Subscribers who have a Book alotted them for the purpose. There is Entrance money paid / besides annual Subscription / which is to increase in proportion of the value of the Books. We have an excellent Library in King Street[,] a handsome Building of a very elegant Elevation. The Librarian is a Clergyman of the Town who attends every day at stated hours when the Library is open to the subscribers.

I know you heartily join me in my wishes for the prosperity of this undertaking and will readily forgive me for this taking up your time and attention[.] I am &c.



Frontispiece portrait of Richard Champion, from Hugh Owen, *Two Centuries of Ceramic Art in Bristol; being a History of the Manufacture of 'The True Porcelain' by Richard Champion* (London, 1873).

[17] Manuscript unclear; this could also be 'fair'.

APPENDIX 4: BIBLIOGRAPHICAL INDEX OF BOOKS RECORDED IN THE MINUTE BOOK

This appendix lists all printed items (including books, maps, and pamphlets) recorded in the Minute Book. Bibliographical details are taken where possible from the four printed catalogues given in the list of abbreviations. The *English Short-Title Catalogue* (available online at www.estc.bl.uk) and *WorldCat* (www.worldcat.org) have also been used to identify works. We gratefully acknowledge the assistance of Anna Probert, who assisted in compiling the bibliographical data presented here as part of the Graduate Research Student Internship Scheme at the University of Liverpool in 2021. Where a specific edition is identified from the catalogues, the publication date refers to the edition specified and does not always correspond to the original date of publication. Since the Library Society occasionally ordered material in advance of publication, the date given is sometimes later than the first reference to a work in the minutes.

'Unidentified' is used where we have not been able to identify the work recorded in the minute book. 'Edition(s) unknown' is used where we have successfully identified the work described in the minute book, but where bibliographical information (or the work itself) is missing from the published catalogues. This may mean that the work, while ordered, was not subsequently acquired by the library. Where 'Edition(s) unknown' is used, the date given usually refers to the first published edition of the work.

Bibliographical information is arranged as follows:
Author's name, *Title of Work* (number of volumes, place of publication, format, date(s) of publication), page(s) on which the work appears in the Minute Book.

The following standard abbreviations are used for volume format:
fol. – Folio
4to – Quarto
8vo – Octavo
12mo – Duodecimo

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[22] William Cruickshank was assistant to William Hunter, who is quoted as the author in the minutes.

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[25] This seems to be what is meant by the minute book's reference to 'Kent's Rural Architecture'.

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[26] The Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, holds *Proposals for Publishing by Subscription A Repertory to Records Inrolled, and Orders and Decrees Made, Respecting Landed Property, &c. in the Court of Exchequer, Upon the King's Remembrancer's Side: from the Beginning of the Reign of Edward I to the Thirty-Third Year of George III inclusive* (1794). The promised work purports to be compiled by the late Adam Martin Esq. and continued by David Burton Fowler Esq. of the King's Remembrancer's Office in the Exchequer, but the work itself was apparently never published; https://www.worldcat.org.

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[28] It is unclear to what this entry in the minutes refers; the first dictionary of the American language is Noah Webster's *A Compendious Dictionary of the English Language* (1806), which was followed by Webster's much expanded *American Dictionary of the English Language* (1828). One possibility might be Thomas Dilworth, *A New Guide to the English Tongue: in five parts* (Philadelphia: Rice & Co., 1791).

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